

The Middlebury Campus

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Since 1905

Vigil for Garza '11 unites community

By Anthony Adragna
NEWS EDITOR

Over 200 students, faculty and members of the community gathered for a vigil of hope Feb. 19, two weeks after Nicholas Garza '11 disappeared during February break.

Those in attendance wrote messages to the Garza family and lit candles at the front of Mead Chapel, where the event was held.

Chaplin Laurie Jordan told the community that the emotions they felt were normal given the situation.

"We're in this weird and crazy state of mind," Jordan said. "All of us are deeply concerned for Natalie [Garza, Nicholas' mother] and her family and that's why we're here."

Members from numerous religious groups on campus, including Hillel, Free Tibet, the Newman Club, the Islamic Society, the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship and the Christian Science Organization read passages from various religious texts.

Jordan reminded those in the Chapel of the trying time the College had gone through over the past weeks.

"We have been in a difficult and challenging time over these past weeks," Jordan said. "We want to have hope but we're fearful."

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and Associate Chaplain Ira Schiffer also read reli-

SEE VIGIL, PAGE 2

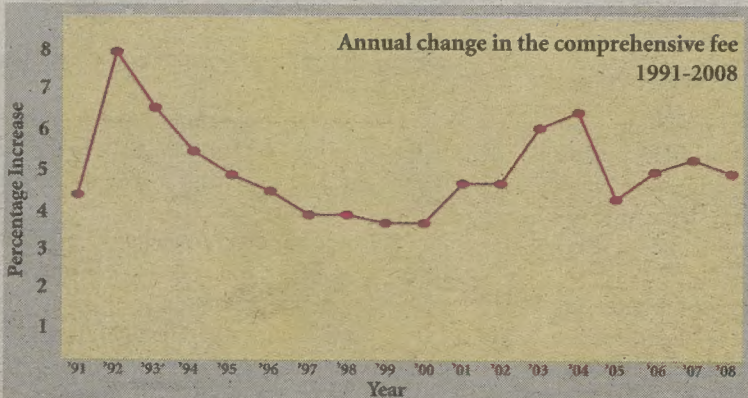


Angela Evancie

OTTER-LY AMUSING

Performing in front of a standing-room-only crowd in the McCullough Social Space on Feb. 19, Willie Orbison '08 and John Glouchevitch '10.5 joined other members of the Otter Nonsense Players in the comedy troupe's first show of the semester. Auditions for the group are being held this week.

Trustees zero in on latest comprehensive fee increase



By Brian Fung
NEWS EDITOR

The College's comprehensive fee could rise by at least five percent, and as much as 5.25 percent in the next academic year, officials familiar with the budgeting process say. While these numbers reflect a decrease over last year's growth rate of 5.3 percent, if the increase is approved by President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz in the next several weeks, the cost of attending the College for one

year will increase to \$49,372.78.

The disclosure follows a weekend presentation given by AnnMarie Wesolowski '08, chair of the Student Comprehensive Fee Committee, to the Board of Trustees on Feb. 15 in which she recommended the College increase the comprehensive fee for the 2008-2009 academic year by 4.93 percent. Wesolowski's presentation, entitled "Responsibility: Middlebury's Present and Future," sought to rein in what the committee saw as potentially unnecessary spending and turn greater attention to students currently studying at the College.

"We wanted [the Trustees] to strike a balance between concentrating on the future as well as on the present," said Wesolowski.

Citing recent investments by the College in local initiatives, Wesolow-

ski described an institution whose interests have come to expand beyond the limits of the physical campus. The College's \$18 million for a new Cross Street Bridge, to be donated over a 30-year period to the town of Middlebury, represents more than 16 percent of all revenue gathered through the 2007-2008 Comprehensive Fee. Add to that the roughly \$2 million spent by the College in purchasing the Old Stone Mill, and another million that went towards constructing a new wing for the Town Hall Theater, and the numbers start adding up, said Wesolowski.

"We're wondering if this is the best use of our financial resources," she said. "Middlebury students want to be involved in the decisions the College makes and understand where their money is going."

SEE FINANCIAL, PAGE 2

Carnival fights calendar shift

By Adam Dede
STAFF WRITER

After the administration's fall announcement that this year's Winter Carnival will be the last to enjoy a three-day weekend, student organizers working behind the scenes on the Carnival hope that a stellar showing at this year's celebration will prove to the Calendar Committee that this Middlebury tradition is worth saving.

The College's Calendar Committee, acting upon a May vote of

dent-led symposium. The decision, according to Secretary of the College John Emerson, followed a recommendation from the Strategic Plan to hold the Middlebury Student Research symposium on a day without classes.

Organizers of the Carnival, however, hope to revive this year's Carnival and reaffirm its traditional importance on campus. The Student Government Association (SGA) also plans to submit an appeal to the Calendar Committee to continue the tradition.

For organizers of the spring student research symposium, an event entering only its second year, the acquisition of an off-day provides potential for growth. But it also provides pressure. The College moved on the recommendation of the Strategic Plan after last spring's inaugural symposium yielded encouraging support and attendance. According to Assistant Professor of Physics Noah Graham, the off day allows the symposium's organizers an effective way to market the event as something more than thesis presentations and lectures, something that may allow it to build upon last year's success.

Still, with a revival of both the Northern Lights and snow sculpture events, organizers of this year's Carnival hope to recapture the magic of Carnivals past. To that

end, this year's Carnival will not only have commons-based student-made snow sculpture, but visiting artist Michael J. Nedell, five-time Vermont state snow carving champion, and two-time national runner-up snow sculptor, will be on campus to create a sculpture of his own.

This year will also see new events, beginning with a bonfire and fireworks celebration Feb. 21 to kick off the Carnival. The kick-off celebration will begin at 8 p.m. and will take place in the space near Ross and McCardell Bicentennial Hall. There will also be an inter-commons broomball tournament.

With these new plans in place, organizers are excited to make this year's Carnival the best in many years, but the threat of melting snow is still a concern.

Nick Sohl '10 and Derek Sakamoto '10, members of the SGA Senate and Carnival Committee, brushed aside this fear. They said that in the event that lack of snow is an issue plans are already in place to truck in the white stuff from the Snow Bowl for the snow sculptures and move the broomball tournament inside.

The Winter Carnival has an 84-year history, making it the oldest and largest student-run carn-

SEE CARNIVAL, PAGE 4

Sailing charts new fundraising course

By James Kerrigan
SPORTS EDITOR

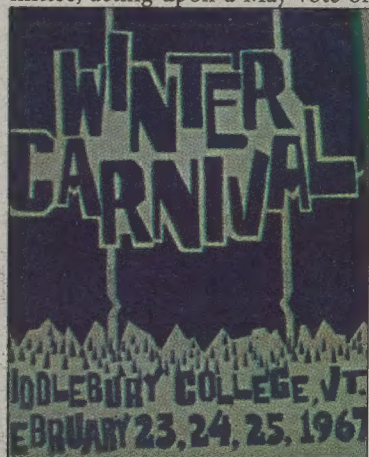
In an effort to eliminate the disconnect between alumni and student organizations on campus, the Middlebury College Sailing Club has worked closely with the Office of College Advancement since early December on a capital campaign entitled "Rock the Boat" to raise the money needed to purchase a new fleet of boats and expand recreational sailing opportunities. After receiving the first donation just over two months ago, the club has raised \$27,360 thus far. If it can reach \$50,000 by May, an anonymous donor will give an additional \$30,000.

Needing higher quality boats due to a recent resurgence of student interest in participation in sailing and the desire to become more competitive, the team became part

of a broader initiative to promote stronger alumni connections for organizations, according to Doug Adams, the director of Campus Activities and Leadership. In the Nov. 13 "One Dean's View" blog posting titled "Pumping up the Volume on Student Orgs," Dean of the College Tim Spears emphasized the importance of enhancing this connection.

"Linking current students to the history of these organizations — and their alumni — is an effective way of deepening students' awareness of what they can accomplish on this campus and beyond," wrote Spears. "If student organizations were encouraged to connect to their alumni bases, build affinity groups, and raise money, there could be even greater options for students."

SEE SAILING, PAGE 26



Courtesy

Just as in 1967, this year's Carnival will include a Friday without classes. The Board of Trustees and citing a recent decline in attendance at ski races, announced in October that it had re-allocated the traditional off-day in the Winter Carnival weekend to April as part of a stu-

this week



Sleigh Ride
A special weekend full of family fun locally, page 5



Sexy Toys
Examine the impacts of the Passion Parties event, page 13

Fashion
Winter Carnival preview of some of the most recent trends, page 19



College to join rating system based on sustainability

By Cloe Sasha
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury College will be participating in a nationwide effort to develop and provide feedback on a proposed comprehensive rating system that colleges can use to evaluate their sustainability and compare their environmental practices to those of other schools. Although ratings themselves will not be given to participants in the pilot program, Middlebury will have a role in shaping the final assessment system.

The Sustainability Assessment, Tracking and Rating System (STARS) is entering a pilot phase in which participating colleges like Middlebury will attempt to gain credits towards a sustainability rating by measuring practices at the College while providing feedback on the effectiveness and efficiency of the system.

"In parallel with our doing the project, we'll be participating in feedback conferences with other schools in which we'll share suggestions about how to make this a better final version which will be available in January 2009 or shortly later," said Campus Sustainability Coordinator Jack Byrne.

The STARS program is being coordinat-

ed by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). AASHE aims to create a standardized system in which schools can establish and raise their sustainability rating by measuring and proving progress on key sustainability questions such as the strength of a college recycling program and whether an institution directs its investments towards sustainable ventures.

According to Byrne, AASHE requested

the help of colleges to test the pilot program at nearly the same time that the Middlebury College Environmental Council was

looking for a rating system that it could use to evaluate the sustainability of Middlebury's practices.

"There has been a lot of interest in the higher education community in how to track progress towards sustainability," said Byrne. "There are assessments in the business and government communities, but none are very

appropriate for the higher education community. For the past couple of years, there have been a group of people working with AASHE to create a tracking tool. As the tool became more refined, AASHE put out a call for colleges to help test it."

In order to establish and improve their ratings, schools will have to earn credits dealing with three sections: education and research, operations and administration, and finance. The STARS pilot system has been

designed to give a greater amount of credits to sustainable outcomes than for institutional shifts towards sustainability.

AASHE believes that schools that earn a high rating could receive marketing benefits, and that such benefits would give institutions an incentive to become more sustainable.

The pilot program will be divided into two phases. Phase one will take place this spring and will deal with the refinement and development of the operations category and

half of the administration and finance category. The second phase will begin in fall 2008 and will focus on education and research.

Middlebury faces challenges in gaining credits. According to Sustainability Assistant Austin Davis, those involved with the survey may have to confront issues including the lack of a centralized purchasing program among the departments, the absence of a campus-wide requirement to use energy efficient products and the lack of a course requirement dealing with sustainable practices.

Organizers of Middlebury's involvement foresee positive outcomes from an early encounter with an environmental rating system. "I think the best thing this will do is to spark a conversation about sustainability in the classroom," Byrne said. "This is an exercise in self-reflection. It challenges us in ways we may not have thought of before."

Moreover, Byrne believes that Middlebury may gain an advantage in later versions of the survey by gaining experience with its intricacies and requirements early on. "As a school participating in the pilot, the final version should be very straightforward for us since we'd already have done so much with the pilot," said Byrne.

This is an exercise in self-reflection. It challenges us in ways we may not have thought of before.

—Jack Byrne

middbrief

by Denizhan Duran
Staff Writer

Synergy II synthesizes social groups

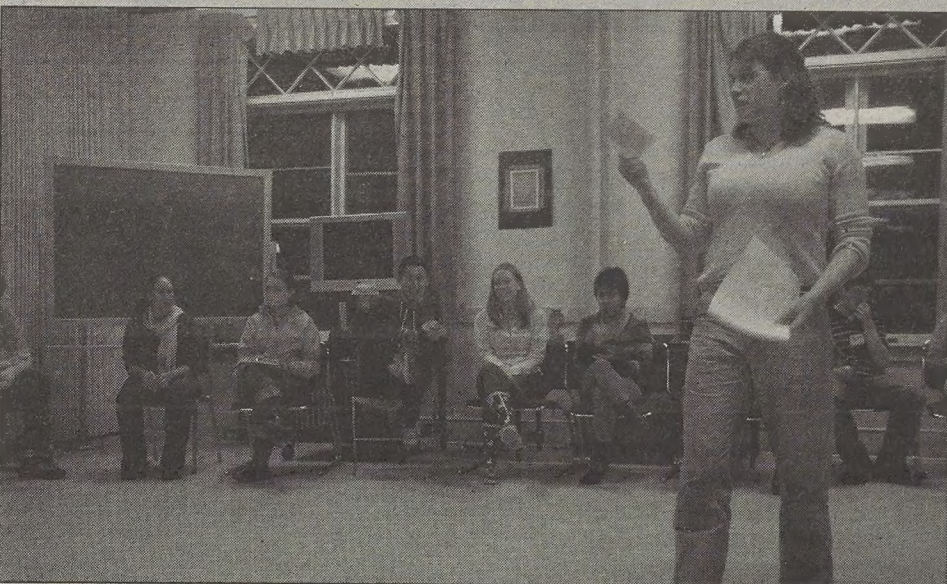
Various campus groups and students shared their projects and ideas at the second Synergy meeting, held on Feb. 18. Through this initiative, members of different groups were able to introduce and learn about several projects planned for the spring term.

Many representatives of a myriad of groups, such as MIDDDialogue, Roosevelt Institution, Alianza Latinoamericana y Caribeña and some students who just started planning an organization, all united in Coltrane Lounge to discuss and share ideas in order to strengthen collaboration among students. Some of the ideas discussed included a Power Shift for the whole state of Vermont to be held at Middlebury, a documentary film festival and an initiative to build relations with local schools through environmental awareness.

"Synergy II was a good opportunity to engage students to see all the great social action projects that their peers are undertaking," said Ben Wessel '11.

The Office for Institutional Planning and Diversity, the Alliance for Civic Engagement and the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership co-sponsored and helped organize this event, which was a continuation of a two-day Synergy workshop that occurred in September. Special Assistant to Athletics and Admissions Alfredo Ramirez and Dean of Institutional Diversity Shirley Ramirez started the meeting with some social activities in order for the participants to get to know each other. Afterwards each particular group presented themselves and their projects for the spring term. At the end there was time for every person who attended to approach different groups and simply talk about their impressions and desires to contribute.

"It was a great success," said Austen Levihn-Coon '08, one of the coordinators of Synergy, "allowing student organizers in campus to see and present what they are planning for the spring."



Bonnie Hemphill '08 joined other social group representatives for Synergy's second meeting.

Meaghen Brown

Vigil-goers search for hope

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

gious passages to the gathering. Two musical pieces on the piano were performed for the audience as well. Dean of the College Tim Spears, Associate Dean of the College Gus Jordan and Public Safety officers also attended the event.

Garza, originally of Albuquerque, N.M., disappeared late in the evening of Feb. 5. He was last seen leaving a social event at around 11:30 p.m. from Stewart. After leaving the event, presumably to return to his dorm room in Allen Hall, Garza disappeared. Many of his possessions, including his laptop and iPod were still in his dorm room. He did not have his winter coat on and was wearing tennis shoes when he was last seen.

Members of the Vermont State Police Department concluded their on-campus search for Garza over the weekend after searching the Ridgeline area on campus, Dean of the College Tim Spears wrote in an e-mail to students.

The State Police may return to campus to search further in the future, Spears wrote.

"After this effort and follow up work on current leads, the Middlebury Police Department may request additional help from the Vermont State Police, if necessary, to search further when the snow pack melts," Spears wrote.

Members of the Facilities Services searched rooftops a second time this week for any signs of Garza. The Middlebury Police Department (MPD) continues to check snow banks along roadways and parking lots for any sign of Garza.

Natalie Garza believes her son remained on campus.

"He was around this campus," she said Saturday. "I don't think he wandered off. It's pretty open between the two dorms."

Spears said getting an answer for the

community is an important part of dealing with the situation.

"It's terribly important to get an answer to the situation," he said. "We have to try and be patient. You deal with a search like this one day at a time."

Police continue to consider the possibility of an accident, but will also consider the possibility of abduction.

"I think there very well could have been a crime," Natalie Garza said. "I think it's very unlikely. Anything is possible though."

Natalie Garza admitted the last two weeks have been extremely difficult but said she would try and stay focused on the

We have to try and be patient. You deal with a search like this one day at a time.

—Tim Spears

search.

"I'm just trying to stay in the moment and be as effective as I can with helping the police," she said.

A fund has been established to assist the Garza family with travel and other expenses during this difficult time. Those wishing to make a donation can write a check to the "Garza Family Fund" and send the donation to "Natalie Garza, c/o Margaret Falcone, 8444 Vista Verde, Albuquerque, NM 87120."

Those with useful information about Garza or his whereabouts have been asked to contact the College's Department of Public Safety at 802-443-5911 or the Middlebury Police Department at 802-388-3191.

Financial aid seen as 'wild card' in fee increase

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Student Comprehensive Fee Committee drew heavily upon a January survey, taken by more than 650 individuals, whose results suggested that students would like to see greater budgetary transparency at the College. Over 88 percent of respondents answered that they would be interested in learning more about the way the comprehensive fee is used, according to the survey.

In addition, while nearly 60 percent of respondents claimed that they were not the re-

cipients of any financial aid, the same number also argued that improving financial aid should be the College's top priority.

The College's Strategic Plan already includes the continued development of financial aid programs as a key objective. In compliance with that goal, the Student Comprehensive Fee Committee allocated an additional \$2,300 towards financial aid in its budget proposal for fiscal year 2009, which was distributed to trustees prior to Wesolowski's Feb. 15 presentation.

But the committee's initial recommen-

dation may differ from the College's ultimate course regarding financial aid, depending on the administration's expectations.

"The wild card might in fact be financial aid," said Liebowitz in an interview. "I don't know to what extent students have grappled with the issue of how much more we should enrich our financial aid program, given what's out there in higher education."

Whatever differences might exist between Old Chapel and the student body on aid policies, both groups agree on the appropriate di-

rection for the College on that front.

"Basically, we said we supported where they were going with it," said Wesolowski, "and we reinforced the fact that it is something that students care about deeply."

Exactly when the final numbers on the comprehensive fee will be released by the administration is still unclear. Previous years have seen formal announcements the day after the Trustees adjourned, but the College has also historically waited until weeks after the meetings to make a decision.

Council examines social houses

By Brian Fung
News Editor

Representatives of the College's Community Council voted Feb. 18 to abide by recommendations made by the Subcommittee on Social and Academic Interest Houses regarding the behavior of three out of five campus social houses. While Xenia, The Mill and Omega Alpha were all approved for continued operation in the next academic year, the Council voted to consider organizations Delta House and Kappa Delta Rho (KDR) separately over the coming weeks.

The two outstanding cases are expected to see approval pending further negotiations among Council members regarding the unique stipulations attached to Delta's and KDR's records, which some representatives said were not strict enough. The sanctions are intended to encourage good social house behavior, with the oblique threat of probation or other punishments for houses that fail to satisfy the requirements of any stipulations associated with their review.

KDR has consistently fallen short of Council mandates calling for a reduction in the house's annual dorm damage costs, said Subcommittee Co-chair Michael Glidden. In each of the past three academic years, the amount of damage caused by KDR to its house on South Street has exceeded \$1,000. In the 2006-2007 academic year alone, total KDR damage costs reached \$1,374, according to the subcommittee's report — more than three times the rate charged that year to the next most destructive social house, Omega Alpha.

Much of the damage incurred by KDR, suggested Glidden, likely came as a result of the social house's annual tradition known as the Pig Roast.

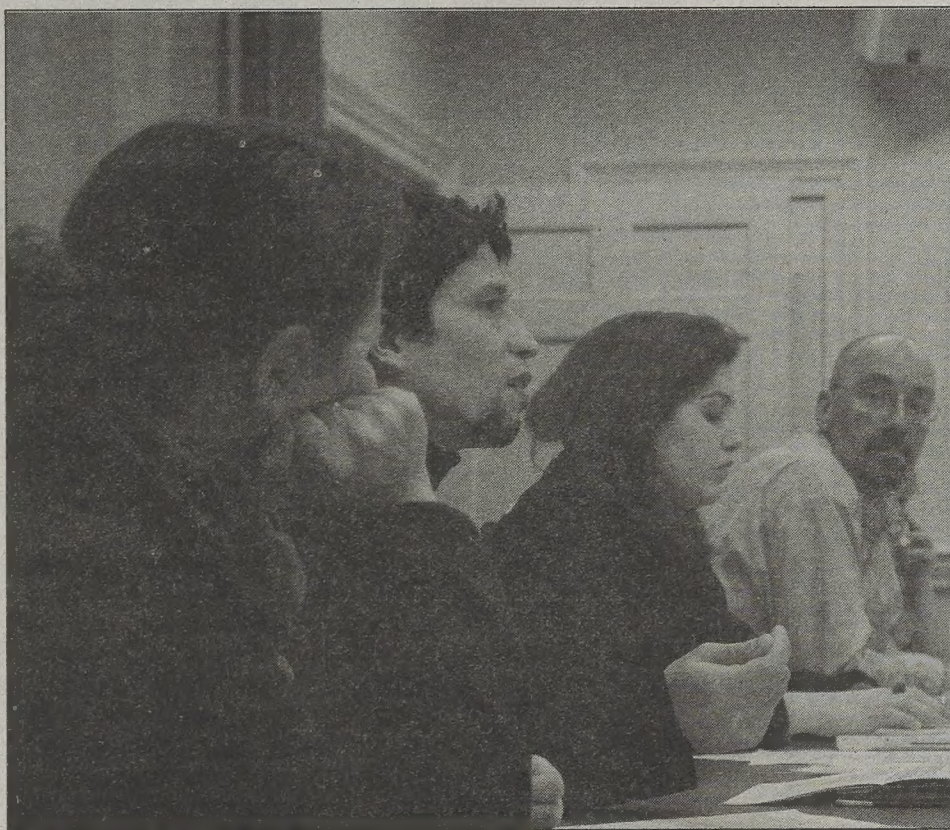
"Someone took it upon themselves to add College property — i.e. chairs — to the fire," said Glidden. "The Pig Roast is a constant issue. This is not the first time that the Pig Roast has come up to a substantial amount of damage."

The subcommittee's report urged KDR to bring damage fees to below \$750 in the next academic year, or "suspend or modify" the Pig Roast in 2009. But some Council representatives, such as Assistant Professor of Mathematics Emily Proctor, called for stronger language that would lay down real consequences for the social house if it failed to meet the request.

"These are pretty empty stipulations," said Proctor. "The implicit understanding is that if they don't meet the stipulation, we'll close them down — but I don't think anybody's ready to pull the trigger."

Other Council members suggested that rather than adding sharper teeth to the recommendation, they should encourage KDR to discuss with the administration ways to reduce damage in anticipation of the Pig Roast this spring.

"Maybe it's just that they need help," said



Andrew Ngeow

The Council held a lengthy discussion on the outstanding cases of Delta House and KDR.

student representative Peyton Coles '08. "If we stipulate right now that they have to run their plan by someone in Facilities [Services] who's experienced, the staff can evaluate it and offer advice."

In light of the Council's discussion, the recommendations regarding KDR were returned to the Subcommittee for revision. Council members expect to return to debate on KDR next week, while also beginning discussion on Delta House.

Delta has faced intense scrutiny since the spring of 2006, when the organization was

If the Council grants Delta's request for residency, the social house could be returned to Prescott in the fall of 2008.

Meanwhile, despite smoldering tensions between the administration and The Mill over a small fire in the group's house on South Main Street last December, as well as a number of fire code violations, the social house was approved for continuation with minor stipulations. They include continuing to abide by the Inter-House Council's probation, imposed after the fire, and showing "continued respect for College policy," according to the Subcommittee report.

There are some actions and damages that cannot be excused and require the strictest and swiftest response.

— Dean Atyia '08.5

Amid the investigation surrounding the December incident, President of The Mill Willie Orbison '08 resigned from his position as new residents began moving into the house this semester.

The Mill, as an organization, will not be facing significant dorm damage charges, even though the cost of the fire reached considerable proportions, according to Glidden.

"Substantial damage was not billed to the house," he said, "since it was picked up by the individual responsible."

Other discussion on Monday sought to address gender inequality among members of the College's substance-free organization, Xenia House. Out of the group's six members residing in Bowker House on Hillcrest Road, four are female, while two are male. Among all Xenia students, 79 percent are female and only 21 percent are male. The house's strong weight in favor of females has led the Community Council to consider Xenia's performance in the area of gender equality only "marginal," and to insist that the organization involve more males in house leadership roles.

Still, the issues involving damages incurred by certain social houses, and the proper way for the College to respond to such issues, dominated the discussion.

"I think the College should take into account both the nature of the damage and the intent behind the damage, and choose an appropriate recourse from there," said Council member Dean Atyia '08.5. "They should also take into account whether or not remunerations can be paid by the offender, because if the offender can offer remunerations, whether monetarily or through action, it demonstrates remorse and reflects positively. I think they do a pretty good job of that now. We should always keep in mind there are some actions and some damages that cannot be excused and require the strictest and swiftest response," Atyia added, "and I hope not to see those in my tenure."



overseas briefing

Germany's political water cooler

by Rachael Carrasquillo

BERLIN — One of the most difficult classes I took this semester at the Freie Universität in Berlin was Introduction to International Relations. I realized after the first two weeks that I was missing something that all of the other students in the class had — namely, years of experience studying and living in the European Union. Examples that were obvious to them flew straight over my head, and I found myself completely frustrated by examples that came as second nature to German students. I was feeling insecure and humbled, questioning if the last 14 years of my education had somehow failed to provide me with a basic foundation, until very recently.

It started a few weeks ago at Curry 36, an imbiß, or street-side food vendor, that serves arguably the best currywurst in the city. I happen, by nature, to be a very loud person, and was discussing the upcoming primary elections with my German friend in a sort of German-English mixture while we gorged ourselves on sausage and french fries. Standing next to us was a middle-aged German businessman who put down his Beck's in order to ask which candidate I would be voting for. Berliners are not unfriendly people, but in my experience they tend to dole out withering looks rather than jump uninvited into conversations with Americans, yet he was genuinely interested in my opinion. This conversation quickly evolved into a detailed explanation of the American Electoral College, ending with a discussion as to whether each state should secede from the union and become their own country. When I tried to explain to him that some states had already attempted that, and it led to the American Civil War, I realized that we were all finished eating and the history lesson should probably end.

Last weekend at a friend's apartment I was once again engaged in a discussion of American politics. An interest in American politics is not unique to Germany, but there are subjects that are of particular interest for Berliners. They are fascinated with Barack Obama, often comparing him to John F. Kennedy, who famously delivered a speech, saying, "All free men, wherever they may live, are citizens of Berlin, and therefore, as a free man, I take pride in the words, 'Ich bin ein Berliner.'" Kennedy remains a symbol of hope and freedom in this city almost 20 years after the end of the Cold War and over 40 years after his visit to West Berlin. The Germans' dislike of George W. Bush is no secret, and when he famously gave Chancellor Angela Merkel an unexpected and unwanted backrub in a press conference, it was scrutinized in the media for weeks and videos are still circulating on YouTube.

As the election in November creeps nearer, friends and acquaintances, as well as strangers who can pinpoint my accent, frequently approach me with a multitude of political questions. Every interaction I have had has been overwhelmingly positive, and I am pleased to say that for each instance in which I have felt humbled and embarrassed by my ignorance concerning the European Union, I have felt gratified by my ability to speak knowledgeably on American history and politics both in and out of the lecture hall.

middbrief

by Anthony Adragna
News Editor

Brush Foundation announces \$35k grant

The Kelly Brush Ski Foundation announced the launch of its national ski race safety program with \$35,000 in grants to ski clubs across the nation on Feb. 14.

Forty grants, ranging from \$250 to \$2,000 were given to ski clubs varying in location from Alaska to Vermont. The grants were earmarked to help purchase specialized netting designed to promote safety on racing courses and individual gear for racers like back protectors.

Some of the ski clubs that received the grants include the Mount Mansfield Ski Club in Stowe, Vt., Vail Ski Club in Vail, Colo., and Squaw Valley Ski Team in Olympic Valley, Calif.

Brush, a senior at the College, told the *Burlington Free Press* that the grants went directly towards achieving the mission of her foundation.

"Promoting ski racing safety is at the heart of the Kelly Brush Foundation's mission," she said. "By going directly to the sport's ground

level — the clubs where young athletes come up — these grants raise awareness about the importance of safety and SCI prevention in ski racing and give clubs the resources to make improvements."

Brush sustained a severe spinal cord injury while racing as a member of the Middlebury Alpine ski team in 2006. At the Williams College Winter Carnival, she was catapulted off the course and struck a lift tower stanchion while falling.

The accident displaced and badly bruised her spinal cord, leaving her currently unable to walk.

Later that year, Brush started the foundation with friends and family. Her foundation lists as its goals: advocating for ski race safety, supporting research to treat and cure paralysis due to traumatic spinal cord injury, improving the quality of life for individuals living with SCI by purchasing adaptive athletic equipment for those with financial limitations and supporting the U.S. Disabled Ski Team.

college shorts

by Anthony Adragna, News Editor

Princeton wants new students to study abroad

Princeton University unveiled a plan that would urge up to a tenth of newly admitted students to spend a year abroad doing foreign service work before they come to school as a freshman.

The University's president, Shirley M. Tilghman, said the program would allow students to mature, spend time away from academic pressures and gain an international perspective.

Princeton's program would create a new age group of students to study abroad. Those that go in high school tend to go through high school exchange programs that leave students placed with a host family. Those that go abroad in college tend to wait two years so they already have experience living independently.

A growing number of students elect to take a gap year, one without any academic study to pursue work and studies in a foreign country.

Proponents of the idea think it will allow students to mature.

"People are too young when they start college," said Allan E. Goodman, president of the Institute of International Education. "This way, they would have a year to mature, and they can do something constructive."

Princeton plans to start with a small group of students and gradually expand to around 10 percent of newly admitted students.

— The New York Times

Colleges ban rumor Web site after criticism

Pepperdine University has banned a college culture Web site after threads of gossip threatened to damage classmates' reputations.

JuicyCampus.com allows students to post gossip threads about their classmate's romantic and social lives. The site launched last fall at seven college campuses, including Duke, UCLA and Loyola Marymount.

Critics feel the site allows people to post comments that are untrue which can have negative impacts on victims in the future. Some feel the comments will affect job prospects or will lead to the formation of negative reputations at school.

"People have gotten just extremely sick of hearing all this stuff," said Rachelle Palisoc, a freshman at Loyola Marymount in California.

— CNN

Survey finds Greek life students drink more

A new survey discovered that members of fraternities and sororities will drink more and use drugs more often than non-members of the system.

The survey, conducted by the State Epidemiological Outreach Workgroup (SEOW), found that Greeks on college campuses are in some instances twice as likely to drink while underage and use illegal drugs as non-Greek students.

In 2007, the study shows that 65 percent of all students and athletes used alcohol within the past 30 days, while that number is close to 90 percent for Greeks. The survey also found that Greeks tend to participate in binge drinking more often than non-Greeks.

"It's alarming to us because of the fact that they're underage," said Spartanburg Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission prevention specialist Greg McCullough, "and also with the illegal substances like cocaine and marijuana, it's just a high percentage — much higher than what you'd find in the general population."

— Spartanburg Herald Journal



Courtesy

Carnival entering a period of transition

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

val in the country. The athletic department organized the first carnivals to give the ski team a chance to compete closer to home, but in 1935, when the Middlebury Mountain Club took over, the Carnival started to grow with new events added every year for non-skiers — even a casino, added in 1939 to the Carnival line-up with the pricey entrance fee of 15 cents.

During World War II, Winter Carnival was put on hold, but it came back stronger than ever after the war with the return of ski coach Bobo Sheehan. Sheehan brought with him several GI ski troopers, who attended Middlebury thanks to G.I.-bill and led the team to a top finish at the first National College Ski Championships held at Sun Valley in 1948.

Even in off years, Middlebury has historically fared well at Winter Carnival. In 1975, after poor performances at both the UVM and Dartmouth Carnivals, Middlebury's men's team was counted out of the running

for the second place finish needed to advance to the NCAA competition. However, in a surprise turn of events Middlebury captured a very close second, losing to Dartmouth by fewer than five points.

"Middlebury's spirit helped coaches Bower, Brush and Kelton retain Middlebury's reputation of an excellently run Carnival," wrote Blair Childs, former reporter for The Middlebury Campus.

Outside the Bowl, traditions on campus were almost as ingrained as the races. From the very first Carnivals, snowshoe, cross-country ski and toboggan races turned into what were known as the Northern Lights, which were relay races of student teams competing for vastly varying prizes in all sorts of categories.

Snow sculpture was also a major staple of Winter Carnival, with students working in teams to create massive sculptures around campus. Both of these traditions have been, in large part, lost due to a five-year period in the 1980's in which the campus was devoid of snow.

Dean of the College Tim Spears commented that if people get out and show support for the Carnival, then a reinstatement of the day off is not out of the question.

"My sense about this is that people will be open to a smart proposal, and I think there are a lot of people who care about Winter Carnival," said Spears. Spears went on to note that where the extra day for Winter Carnival will come from will be the main issue, since the administration is unlikely to give up on the spring student research symposium. The leading possibility is to shorten the final examination period, which is the longest in the NESCAC, by one day.

In the end, however, the main thing that will save the Carnival will be students getting out and showing support for it.

"It's a day off to go out and enjoy yourself, and it makes Middlebury much more unique," said Sakamoto.

According to Sohl, the bottom line is just getting people out to the races and to the various events.

"The more people [that] go out, the



Mike Bayersdorfer

WHEN IT'S COLD OUTSIDE

Some Middlebury students got a head start on the upcoming Winter Carnival festivities with ski jumping between Gifford Hall and Munroe Hall last week. With melting snow looming as a potential hinderance for the Carnival, they were lucky to get their fun in while they could.

public safety log

February 8 - February 17, 2008

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
2/08/2008	10:00 p.m.	Vandalism	Door	Tavern	Open
2/10/2008	8:45 a.m.	Vandalism	Window	Forest	Referred to Commons Dean
2/10/2008	10:55 p.m.	Violation	Drugs	Battell	Referred to Commons Dean
2/10/2008	8:50 p.m.	Theft	Laptop	Library	Referred to MPD
2/11/2008	9:50 p.m.	Harassment	Phone Call	Stewart	Referred to Commons Dean
2/11/2008	8:24 p.m.	Theft	Laptop	Library	Referred to MPD
2/12/2008	12:45 a.m.	Violation	Drugs	Milliken	Referred to Commons Dean
2/13/2008	Unknown	Possession	Stolen Table	Palmer	Referred to Commons Dean
2/14/2008	1:36 p.m.	Theft	Recycling Bins	Atwater Hall A	Open
2/16/2008	11:45 p.m.	Violation	Drugs	Gifford	Referred to Commons Dean
2/16/2008	10:42 p.m.	Violation	Drugs	Hepburn	Referred to Commons Dean
2/17/2008	1:30 a.m.	Theft	Items	Atwater Hall A	Open
2/17/2008	1:42 a.m.	Violation	Drugs	Hepburn	Referred to Commons dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 18 alcohol citations between Feb. 8 and Feb. 17.

We serve as the gateway to rural Vermont's heritage," said Assistant Director of Billings Farm & Museum David Miles, straining to be heard over the insistent "bah"s of animals congregating at the edges of their pens following the "How to Keep a Sheep" workshop in which they starred.

Such a distraction was to be expected at the farm and museum's Sleigh Ride Weekend, held from Feb. 16-18 in Woodstock, Vt. at the working farm, dating back to 1871, which aims to preserve tradition while adopting sustainable, progressive practices. The event afforded visitors the opportunity to embark on chilly sleigh rides propelled by horses Jim and Joe, whiz down an embankment on "jack jumper" sleds, tour a farmhouse restored to its 1890 prime and watch presentations ranging from "Up Close With a Jersey Cow" to "On Behalf of a Calf" and "Machine Milking of the Herd."

In an on-site theater, the farm and museum's rich history was expounded upon in twice-hourly screenings of "A Place in the Land," Charles Guggenheim's 1998 Academy Award-nominated film chronicling the landmark's development, and its commitment to conveying humankind's "obligation to live

in harmony with [nature] and to pass it on, enriched, to future generations."

The vision espoused in "A Place in the Land" is one to which the farm and museum's employees ardently subscribe.

"We play a significant role locally in terms of tourism, and also in terms of education," Miles said. "People come here, and they learn more about Vermont, other ideas, other areas to explore."

This process of education extends to those who assist in facilitating it.

After he retired last year from his post as Assistant Director of Gift Planning at Dartmouth College, Rick Carbin — who spent the day loading passengers onto a horse-drawn sleigh for a seven-minute ride around the farm's grounds — sought to occupy his time in a manner he found meaningful. "I didn't just want to put my legs up and rest," he said.

That pursuit, coupled with his background in land-use planning and conservation, brought him to Billings Farm & Museum.

"It's a great place to come just to recreate and meet good folks who are working on the farm," Carbin said. "And for the larger community, it's a real lesson. The history of this farm

story continued on page 7 . . .

story and photos by Kelly Janis, Local News Editor

Laughing All the Way

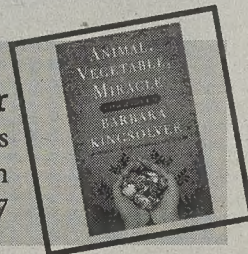
Billings Farm offers weekend of frosty
fun and frolicking

Dang, That's Spicy Pho
Pho Dang Vietnamese Café
serves up fiery fare,
page 6



Fatal Collision
Out-of-control vehicle kills three,
page 6

Go Ahead, Eat Wilbur
Localvore author supports
consumption of one's own
animals, page 7



Vehicle loses control, claims lives of three

By Tamara Hilmes
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Three people were killed on Feb. 13 in a two-car collision on U.S. Route 7 just north of Middlebury. The near head-on collision occurred late Wednesday morning a little before 11 a.m., Middlebury Police Chief Tom Hanley said in a Feb. 14 article in *The Rutland Herald* entitled "Route 7 crash kills 3."

The fatal accident occurred when a southbound blue Chevrolet Cavalier, driven by Derek Busier, 31, crossed the center line of the road, lost control and hit the oncoming, northbound green Jeep of James P. Dunn

of Salisbury. Busier, as well as his two passengers, Jennifer Traverse, 28, and Justin Traverse, 10, were killed in the collision. All were of Bristol, Vt. Dunn was taken to Porter Hospital and then Fletcher-Allen Health Care, and though he sustained serious injuries, he is expected to survive.

According to Hanley, the Chevy Cavalier was basically crushed side-to-side and the damage was such that the victims had to be extricated from the vehicle in a garage at the Middlebury Police headquarters. As reported by the *Herald*, a leak in the gas tank prevented it from being done on the scene of the acci-

dent.

The collision occurred just north of Middlebury on Route 7 close to Hendry Brothers, a farm and lawn equipment supplier, near the New Haven town line around 10:40 a.m. on Feb. 13.

Police are still unsure as to what might have caused the blue sedan to have lost control and skidded sideways, as it did. It is speculated that the slushy road conditions may have resulted in hydroplaning, although police are still attempting to reconstruct the accident, as well as confirm vehicle speeds.

After the accident occurred, the section

of Route 7 stretching from Exchange Street in Middlebury to River Road was closed off for a period of two hours while crews continued to clear the scene of the accident. The blue sedan was placed under tarps and loaded onto a flat-bed truck and taken to the Middlebury Police Department, and the green Jeep was placed in the impound lot at the police department. Once cleared, the road was reopened to traffic around 12:20 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon.

Hanley was unavailable to comment on any updates to the investigation of the collision or Dunn's status when the paper went to print.

Localvores chew on Kingsolver's new book

By Andrea Glaessner
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

What brings Vermonters together better than cheddar and apples? The answer is local. "Local food" was the theme which dominated Monday night's discussion at Ilsey Public Library of Barbara Kingsolver's latest book "Animal, Vegetable, Miracle."

The book tells the story of the author and her family, who committed to living and

ideas about living locally in Vermont.

The discussion began with an introduction by Kristin Bolton — the organizer for Ilsey book discussions — of the discussion moderators, Michelle McCauley, associate professor of Psychology, and Jay Leshinsky, the adviser to the College's organic garden. After a few welcoming words, the leaders handed off the discussion to the members of the group, inviting everyone to introduce

weekly to the lawn in front of American Flatbread.

Hammond's Web site announcement sparked excitement in the crowd especially from the so-called farmers' market "groupies." Carol Calhoun, a self-proclaimed farmers' market enthusiast who compared the farmers' market to a candy store, felt that the market was not just a place to find delicious and healthy food, but was also, perhaps more importantly, "a great social event."

Enthusiastic agreement resounded from the group as more members discussed this notion of the local food movement as a community builder. Another woman pointed to the phenomenon of bartering and sharing with neighbors. She discussed how canning has put her in touch with a whole group of individuals with similar interests and a wealth of information to tap into related to "putting food by."

Ideas were tossed about, like popping corn in a hot tin. One woman, Berry Bailey, a heritage turkey farmer, brought up the idea of mentoring. That, she explained, was how she herself came to produce her own organic garden.

Other members felt a sense of urgency to embrace local food now, as the food system faced impending doom. John Ball, highlighting the "green" aspect of local food, called the group to "see local food as a way we are going to have to move in the future." Less a choice and more a necessity, other members agreed with the idea that resource scarcity may eventually push us, ready or not, to depend on local food for sustenance and survival.

The conversation soon shifted to the humane treatment of animals and its relationship with local food. Arguments were made pertaining to the problem of government stipulations on slaughterhouses. According to Hammond, there are many restrictions and regulations involved in legally slaughtering and selling animals, some of which are simply benefiting the macro-agro business and hurting small local farmers.

"I saw the news about the California beef recall," said Hammond, "and I thought, and they're scared of us?"

McCauley nodded in agreement, adding, "I feel like I should have the right to decide if I want to buy meat from my own neighbor."

Jan Ball runs her own farm and is actively working on plans to develop a "model" sustainable, local farm run by women that can buy up other Vermont farms and set a model for other farms. In her spare time, she is raising chickens on her own farm. She shared her sentiments about the importance

of "compassionate animal slaughtering."

"There's nothing like having a relationship with your chickens and then killing them compassionately," explained Ball. "In fact, I've watched my chickens become compassionate chickens. When you are compassionate to them, they become compassionate to each other."

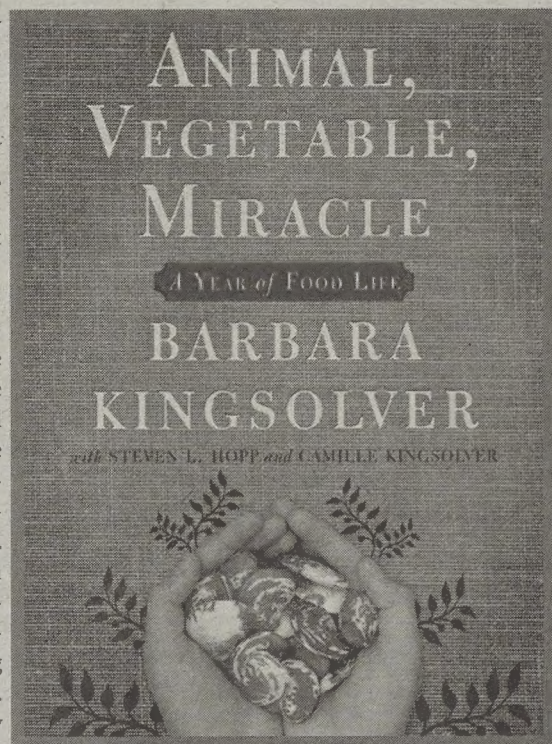
The urgency felt by members of the group to live green and responsibly raised the issue of the educational system and its tendency to exclude teaching children about farming, gardening and healthy food from the curriculum. A few students from the College were in attendance, and one student described her plans to get farming and gardening programs into the schools, or at least offer the activity as an extra-curricular opportunity for young children.

"You shouldn't have to sacrifice education for eating good, healthy food," echoed one member of the group.

The group also discussed themselves as supporters of the local food movement, and recognized a few of the problems with eating locally, mainly regarding accessibility and costs. Hillary Gerardi '08 shared an anecdote about visiting a friend in New York City and feeling two forms of guilt when making a decision about what to eat for dinner.

"I felt guilty because I'm not buying local food for this one meal," Gerardi explained, "but also because I realized that there are huge communities of people out there who don't even have the opportunity to make the choice to eat locally and connect with farmers like we do here in Vermont."

The group discussed local food from the book to themselves to the communities that do it and the ones that cannot. Because, after all, bringing it all home and putting it out on the table is what the Localvores, an increasingly visible sub-culture in Vermont, are all about.



Kingsolver chronicles a year devoted to eating locally. Courtesy

There's nothing like having a relationship with your chickens and then killing them compassionately.
— Jan Ball

sustaining off their own farm and local food in Virginia for one year. There were exceptions, of course, like dried fruit, turmeric and coffee, which were ordered from fair trade organizations working with growers in Africa, Asia and South America. But the message in the book is that eating local food, not organic, vegan or vegetarian, is the best way to be healthy and green in a world where rising oil prices are pressuring individuals and communities to become increasingly sustainable and self-reliant.

That message was the common thread that brought farmers, students, vegetarians, Kingsolver-followers and farmer's market "groupies" together to discuss the book and

themselves and a particular piece of the book they felt was important.

It was clear from the introductions that the range of interest in local food was vast. Bay Hammond, a founding member of the Addison County Relocalization Network (ACoRN), read the book not only to "learn about the journeys of other families living locally" but also to discuss Addison County's own rising local food movement. In particular, Hammond announced that ACoRN had recently put up a Web site that gets local farms in touch with local customers electronically. According to Hammond, the Web site allows customers to order locally-grown food online which would then be delivered



Grace Duggan

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PUPPET SHOW

Spectators listen attentively to the tale of "Susan's Friend" in a special Black History Month presentation by the Traveling Story Teller at Ilsey Public Library on Feb. 16.



Barbara Kingsolver, the author of the book. Courtesy

localflavor

by Tamara Hilmes and Jean Falconer

Pho Dang Vietnamese Café cooks up flaming fare

If I had to describe Pho Dang Vietnamese Café in just one word, I think I would go with SPICY! If I had a bald spot, it would have been shiny with sweat by the time I finished my meal, just like my dad whenever he eats any really spicy food. Looking back on this dining experience nearly brings tears to my eyes — not because the food was bad, but merely because every bite was like putting a stick of dynamite into my mouth. Before my mouth was burned to the point of numbness, however, I was able to rejoice in the bliss of Asian cuisine, a far cry from Atwater's poor attempt at mimicking Eastern victuals.

When I first entered the tiny building on Main Street in Winooski, it felt like a regular burger joint with an Asian sign out front, rather than a typical Vietnamese restaurant. Pho Dang is a tiny eatery, with only nine petit tables. Once I walked inside, a teenage employee at the back of the restaurant hailed me with the highest-pitch voice I have ever heard. After she instructed me to take a seat wherever I pleased, I sat down at one of the small tables and began to peruse the menu while over the radio came the crooning of what I imagined to be Vietnamese pop music — it was pretty horrendous. After ordering my meal, my waitress brought out a little silver teapot full of piping hot liquid and tiny Asian cups, which provided sufficient distraction from

waiting for my food to where the wait became nearly nonexistent.

When my meal arrived, it was laid down in front of me in a gigantic bowl. Although I had ordered #23 on the menu (I recommend using the numbers when ordering as the actual names of the dishes are ridiculous to pronounce.

For instance, mine was "Bun Bo Xao Xa Ot Cha Gio), which was under the section entitled "Bun-Vermicelli Noodle," it appeared to be almost soup-like.

It had very skinny, clear noodles along with stir-fried beef, and cut-up miniature eggrolls. The dish also came with lemongrass, of which I was not a big fan since it overpowered the other flavors in the dish. Literally, all I could taste was lemon and grass. That is, of course, while I could still taste at all. By the time I had finished, eating one of those little eggrolls was like lighting my mouth on fire. It was seriously so hot that I proceeded to attempt to let air in my mouth to cool it down and ease the pain by opening my mouth ridiculously wide and



looking like an idiot. Until that point, though, the eggrolls were probably my favorite part of the dish.

If spicy foods are not your forte, I would recommend ordering the classic pho dish instead of one of the hotter entrees. Pho, a Vietnamese soup dish with noodles, meat and cilantro, is much more mild than, say, #23 on the menu. One drawback to the pho, however, is that the soup served up at Pho Dang was rather lacking in flavor. If you do opt for the pho, you may find it necessary to add salt and rooster sauce to up the flavor intensity. Also, if you are not a huge fan of cilantro, you might want to count this dish out. Aside from entrees, I would also recommend the eggrolls or Cha Gio as an appetizer and the Ca Phe Sua Da, or iced coffee, for a frosty, caffeine-infused treat.

Although the spicy fare served up at Pho Dang may leave you nursing third-degree burns on your tongue, it certainly will not burn a hole through your wallet. With the most expensive item on the menu costing just \$8.50, Pho Dang most definitely fits the average college student's budget. The Vietnamese café, located at 215 Main St. in Winooski, Vt., serves up some of Vermont's finest pho daily from 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.



Sleigh rides thaw the winter chill

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

is one of conservation and stewardship, and that tradition continues today. There's a lot to learn, a lot to see, and it's something vital to the future."

Carbin reported that the day was proceeding smoothly, with the exception of an inevitable hitch every now and again.

"I do a program on where the milk goes, and we have a vacuum pump you're supposed to plug in so you can show how artificial machine working works," he explained. "Well, the vacuum pump blew up [during the demonstration]."

Alongside these unexpected turns, the museum strives to inject its operations with vitality by infusing events with elements well-aligned with the season. In this vein, the visitors' center marked President's Day weekend by pairing their offering of hot spiced cider with "Favorite Cookies of the Presidents." Grace Coolidge's nutty and delicious Ice Box Cookies were a daily fixture, accompanied on a rotating basis by Rutherford B. Hayes's Hermits, Grover Cleveland's Snickerdoodles, Zachary Taylor's Black Pepper Cookies, Franklin Pierce's New Hampshire Seed Cookies, George Washington's Jumbals and Ulysses

Grant's Lemon Drops.

Katie Brobst, 11, of Randolph, Vt., spent the weekend relishing her station as a "junior volunteer," working alongside museum staff to dole out the coveted cookies and assist youngsters in piecing together presidential silhouettes with paper, glue and scissors.

"It's a lot of fun," Brobst said. "I really enjoy it."

Much of her enjoyment was admittedly cultivated by the benefits to which Brobst is privy in exchange for the contribution of time. "When you volunteer here in the summer, you get a free ice cream," she said.

When a fellow volunteer reminded her that they are responsible for the task of eating the broken leftovers during the museum's donut sales, Brobst agreed that such a fact also proves a compelling draw.

Her eagerness did not immediately extend, however, to the sleigh rides taking place outside.

"I did that last year," she said. "It was raining, so it was a wet blanket [in the sleigh] instead of a warm one."

Assuming that the rain remains sufficiently at bay to retain the blanket's warmth — and even if it does not — those who are in



Kelly Janis

Figurines welcome visitors to the museum.

search of a supplement to Winter Carnival skingazing are in luck: Billings Farm & Museum will repeat its sleigh ride festivities this weekend, furnishing those who missed out on indulging in Snickerdoodles and jack jumpers on President's Day an opportunity to sashay their way through glistening white fields before the frost recedes. The event will be the final opportunity to visit the farm and museum prior to the kick-off of its regular season on May 1.

If you go, here are some details you should know:

Billings Farm & Museum Sleigh Ride Weekend

Dates: Feb. 23 and 24

Time: 10 a.m.-4 p.m., both days

Cost: \$11 for adults

Phone number: (802)-457-2355

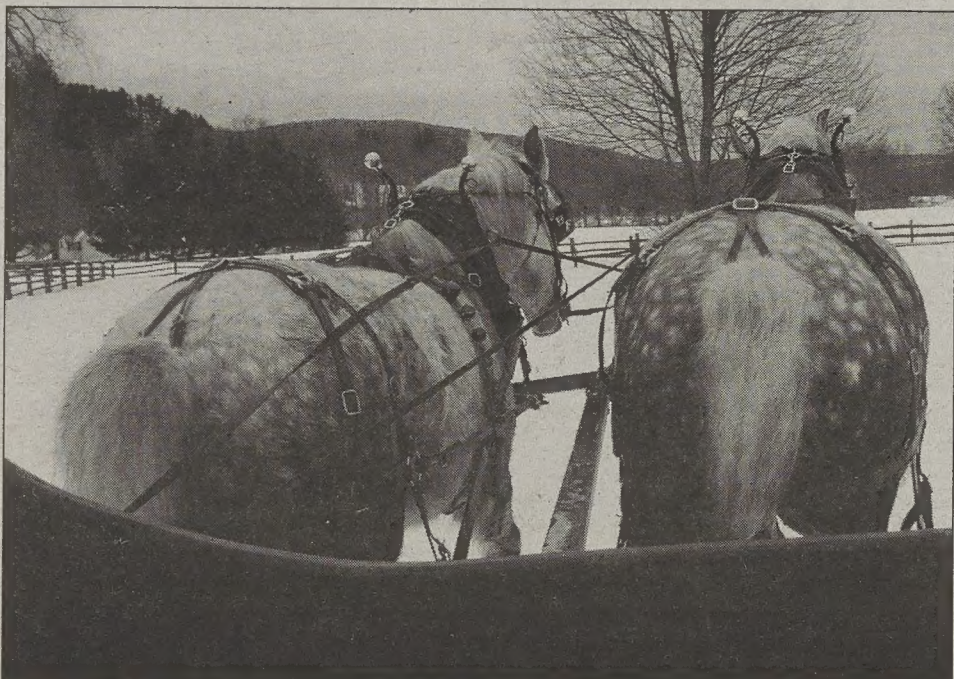
Address: Route 12 & River Road P.O. Box 489, Woodstock, VT 05091-0489

Directions:

•Travel 32 miles south on US-7.

•In Rutland, turn left onto Woodstock Ave/US-4 East. Continue for 30 miles.

•Travel a half mile north of the town of Woodstock. Turn left on Route 12 North, and bear right on River Road to arrive at Billings Farm's main entrance.



Kelly Janis

Two horses trot through the frosty field, hauling Billings Farm & Museum visitors in tow.

local lowdown

your source for upcoming events in the community

A Classy Rummage Sale in Vergennes

Beef up your wardrobe and benefit the Champlain Valley Christian School on Feb. 20-23 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. when the Your Turn Consignment Shop in Vergennes holds its "Classy Rummage Sale." Besides slashing every item in the store to rummage sale prices, Your Turn will feature a "50 Percent Off Day" as well as a "Bag Day" to augment your savings. More information is available at (802) 877-3028. (We'll give the shop the benefit of the doubt and assume its overt insistence that this is a classy rummage sale is not tantamount to an event which — to borrow from the Bard — "doth protest too much.")

Art in the Snow in Brandon

The artists, merchants, restaurants and inns of Brandon, Vt. are gearing up for a stream of visitors on Feb. 23 and 24 from 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in conjunction with the town's Fourth Annual Art in the Snow Winter Weekend Celebration, during which nearly two dozen artists will open their studio spaces to those interested in sampling the range of folk and fabric artists, potters, painters, sculptors and jewelers who practice their craft therein. For more information, visit www.artinthesnow.com.

Ten Questions for the Dali Lama

Prepare your most burning inquiries for His Holiness, come to terms with the fact that you likely will not be granted the opportunity to pose them within the bounds of Addison County this week and then head on over to the Bristol Bakery on Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. to vicariously satisfy your thirst for knowledge by means of a screening of "Ten Questions for the Dali Lama: One Man's Journey through the Northern Himalayas," a 2006 film which, according to a synopsis by director by Rick Ray, "explores some of the fundamental questions of our time" and "contains rare historical footage as well as footage supplied by individuals at great personal risk, filmed with hidden cameras within Tibet." The event, sponsored by the Bristol Recreation Department, will conclude with a group discussion.

Addison Historical Society Meeting

For a refreshing brush-up on that 11th-grade U.S. History class you regularly dozed off in, look no further than the Addison County Baptist Church on Feb. 24 at 2 p.m. Civil War reenactors Jim and Susan Peden will engage visitors in a discussion of Civil War firearms and women's clothing. Reenactments of the Battle of Fredericksburg from the altar — while not entirely implausible — are not guaranteed. Refreshments, however, are.

Scrapbooking Workshop in Salisbury

All those searching to display their Winter Carnival mementos in a more appealing venue than that stained, yucky, school-provided corkboard on the wall of their dorm room are in luck. On Feb. 25 at 6:30 p.m., Blanca Jenne — owner of Scrapbook Paradise in East Middlebury — will hold a scrapbooking workshop at the Salisbury Free Public Library, aimed at extolling the fundamentals of planning and designing scrapbook pages. Participants are asked only to pre-register, and bring with them adhesive, scissors and all the creative energy they can muster. For more information, call (802) 388-4014 or e-mail Jennifer.Stefani@gmail.com.

The Middlebury Campus

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Why "Let's Talk About Sex" month succeeds where symposia fail

Sex sells — and "Let's Talk About Sex" month, sponsored by the Office of Health and Wellness and a slew of on campus organizations, knows it. Boasting events as diverse as discussions about the College's hook up culture, performances of "The Vagina Monologues" and speed dating, the month-long focus on sex has generated unexpected interest among students on campus. Trumping the admittedly cynical outlook of editors seasoned to expect low turnout, students rallied for a raucous sex toy workshop and to cheer on their classmates in a Middlebury reenactment of "The Dating Game."

Middlebury students are largely an inhibited — and overextended — crowd. What prompted students so often paralyzed by an insurmountable work load and even more insurmountable social anxieties to embrace these events? On one level, the apparent success of the month's events is rooted in what can only be deemed a hunger to candidly discuss relationships and sex. But the College plays host to any number of thought-provoking lectures and symposia in any given term. What brought flocks of students to the Grille to listen to the "Date Doctor" while seats sit too often empty in lecture halls?

Aside from an interest in sex, the month's events point to an even stronger desire among students: the desire for a sense of daring that the traditional approach to symposia rarely provide. In putting together a remarkably well-balanced docket of events, the love fest's organizers managed to both educate and entertain. Speakers invited to campus have proven racy but also thought provoking, and some events — speed dating and "The Dating Game" leap to mind — have been fun for the sake of fun. Even in these early days of the semester, the respite from strictly academic work is refreshing.

As Winter Carnival, ensconced in talk of revived traditions, knocks at our doors, and as its odd neighbor the student research symposium looms in the distance, the lesson to learn from "Let's Talk About Sex" month has less to do with sex and more to do with talking. The sense of play that the Office of Health and Wellness (and the students and organizers working in conjunction with the office) have brought to the table this month is worth imitating — in both the expected realm of the Carnival festivities and in the uncommon ring of academia.

Of course, in the short term, let's talk about sex. In the waning days of February, a condom party, "gender neutral" Blind Date Dolci and lecture by sex educator Jay Friedman round out the month's events.

corrections

Yu Wang '11 was misidentified in a photograph on page 23 of the Feb. 14 issue of *The Middlebury Campus* as Alyssa Ha '11. Wang is pictured swimming the 50-yard time trial, an event in which she placed fourth.

Tristan Axelrod '08, in his op-ed entitled "Participation grading: does it serve the student body?" was mistakenly identified as a Music and Economics major. Axelrod is studying Music and English.

In the article "Authorities search campus for Nicholas Garza '11" on page 1 of the Feb. 14 issue of the newspaper, *The Campus* mistakenly reported that alcohol was present at a party in Stewart Hall on the night of Garza's disappearance. At the time of press, students, College authorities and local police were unable to confirm on the record that alcohol was involved in the case.

The Campus regrets these errors.

contact the campus

To contact The Middlebury Campus Publications with story tips or content suggestions, e-mail: campus@middlebury.edu

or find us on the web at:
www.middleburycampus.com

Miller 2-08



Do you think our endowment will ever be able to cover student loans like they did at Bowdoin?

Columnist illustrations by Christina Spencer

Cartoon by Sam Dakota Miller

Letters to the editor

To the Editor:

We need to ask John McCain to serve again. George Washington overcame many hardships, had two horses shot out from under him and had musket balls rip through his waistcoat during the Revolutionary War. Fortunately, he survived to serve again. The strength of his character won the hearts and minds of freedom-loving Americans. He is remembered with these unforgettable words "... first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen." His character, honesty and military knowledge and wisdom boosted the stature of this heroic figure. He was asked, again and again, to serve his country. He served in a civilian capacity, as president, for two terms setting the modern-day precedent of two terms for the office of President of the United States. He declined the

third term to return to his beloved Mt. Vernon.

Today, we Americans are in a similar situation. We can choose to elect another heroic figure, one with military knowledge and wisdom, one who has overcome many hardships, one who had his aircraft shot out from under him courtesy of a surface-to-air missile, one who had both arms and legs broken as he ejected his crippled aircraft and one whose loyalty to America was never broken during his many years of tortuous captivity in Hanoi.

Fortunately, he survived to serve again. After the war, he was asked to serve in a civilian capacity, bringing a higher measure of character and honor to the United States Congress as a senator from Arizona. We Americans are at a critical juncture in the history of our country. We need someone

with military knowledge to protect us from the persistent onslaught of terrorists. We need someone as president whose character and loyalty to America is unquestioned. We need another man with the stature of George Washington to lead us through these turbulent times. We need John McCain.

I urge my fellow Americans to carefully compare the records of all the other candidates in this upcoming election. No one, except John McCain, has the experience comparable to George Washington's. His unique qualities provide him with the unquestioned capacity to lead us, unite us and keep us safe and prosperous for the next eight years. Like George Washington, we need to ask John McCain to serve again.

Sincerely,
Nick De Mayo
Sugar Hill, N.H.

(Letters Continued on page 9)

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Letters continued

To the Editor:

Why choose Hillary Clinton over Barack Obama? The answer to this question is purely logical — Qualification. Hillary Clinton spent four years at Wellesley College and five years at Yale University before her near 20-year career as a lawyer, then moving on to the U.S. government, being an active First Lady for eight years and spending another eight as Senator of New York state. There, she barely won her first election, but after only four years won over her critics, winning her re-election by a landslide. Keep in mind the diverse population of the state, with quite a pluralistic liberal population in the New York City area, while surrounded by conservative, rural areas with many republicans

— a group that is hard to win over if you're a Democrat.

Barack Obama went to Harvard Law School. He spent four years in the Illinois State Senate before spending four years in the U.S. Senate. Also he took a six year break to spend in community service during his college years. This is impressive, and his policies are similar to Clinton's. However, even though Obama is a great motivational speaker and tells everybody he'll find plans for things such as affordable, portable health care and oil independence, Clinton already has these plans and more. Also, her experience in the actual West Wing of the White House gives her an advantage. Furthermore, I support Clinton because she comes from a middle

class family and has struggled like the rest of us do. After fighting her way to the top, she didn't leave her roots, but spent much of her life improving conditions for the middle class by working in family court, sitting on national boards for various children's organizations, fighting for universal health care and her dramatic success in her Vaccines for Children program. Clinton has always been "sticking up for the little guy" as the expression goes, and she does because she knows what it's like to struggle. I like Obama, but I do not think he is ready for the White House. Clinton is.

Sincerely,
Nicole Jenanian

heard on campus

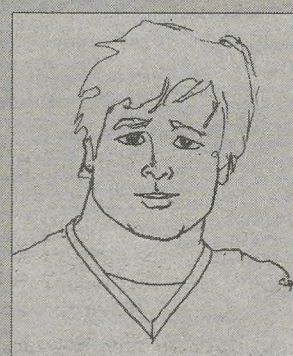
The safest sex is with your velvet ripples vibrator!

— Morgane Richardson '08

Shenanigans: Alex Garlick
Super-saver for the
Democrats?

The Democratic nomination race will be very close. Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama are fighting for every last delegate in their primary contests, desperately trying to get to the magic number of 2,025. This is a breath of fresh air for political fans, accustomed to seeing the nomination locked up by Groundhog Day. States have seen record turnout, and the country saw the closest thing to a national primary it has ever had when almost half the states participated in Super Tuesday. However, unless Barack or Hillary pulls away in the coming months, a clause in the Democratic Party regulations could take the nomination out of the hands of the people and into the hands of 796 elected officials and party insiders. These people are called superdelegates, and despite the fact that superdelegates may challenge the democratic legitimacy of the process, they may actually save the Democrats from themselves.

Remember what the purpose of the primary process is — to pick a nominee that satisfies the party and has the best ability to win in November. If Barack and Hillary end up going all 15 rounds in their metaphorical boxing match, John McCain will have more than a puncher's chance in the General Election. The Democrats' potential problem is exacerbated by the way they scheduled their convention. In 2004, the Democratic National Convention was in Boston in mid-July, almost six weeks before the GOP's Labor Day affair. This ended up costing John Kerry when his allocated money had to last six weeks longer than George Bush's. Therefore, instead of having a "100 Days Party," the Democrats will be dropping the balloons in Denver in late August. If the two candidates stumble into the convention with an air of uncertainty, then the Democrats will be wishing they had copied the Middlebury Senior Committee's "100 Days" plan, although probably without the markers and white tee shirts. Meanwhile, this whole time John McCain will be running in a one-sided race, which is quickly becoming a Republican love fest. On a side note, did anybody else see Mitt Romney looking very vice-presidential at McCain's side last week? It's only a couple weeks since, in Jay Leno's words, Mitt threw in the mono-



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grammed towel, and already he's looking longingly into John's eyes.

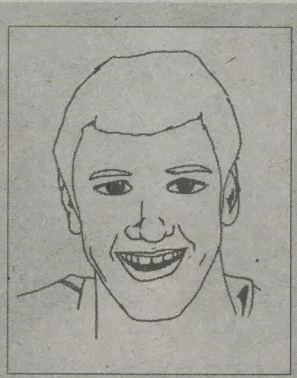
Anyway, what does this have to do with superdelegates? Well, the 796 supers make up 20 percent of the total, and even if they have publicly sided with a candidate, they are not bound to either, and could swing the vote in either direction. Therefore they can break any sort of deadlock, and give the eventual nominee a little momentum before facing McCain. You may ask, shouldn't the primaries produce a man (or woman) of the people? As Thomas Mann pointed out in Friday's *The New York Times*, superdelegates are public personalities that are more accountable for their actions at the convention than voters are in the comfort of their own voting booth. They have their finger on the pulse of public opinion. So fear not, the people's voice will be heard. So far, the superdelegates seem to be split, just like the voters. Hillary has the ghosts of the old Clinton Administration in her corner, while Obama has shown an ability to make inroads in the Democratic establishment, as evidenced by his endorsement by Ted Kennedy and John Kerry (which is a good thing, right?).

For you Democrats out there hoping to beat McCain in November, superdelegates may be your best hope of avoiding an embarrassing and divisive convention, only a few weeks before the start of the debates. Otherwise, the best chance for the Democrats may have to be an outsider, preferably one with wild popularity and national experience. I can hear it now: "Paging Al Gore, could Mr. Gore please make his way to the stage."

Alex Garlick '08.5 is a Political Science and Economics major from Needham, Mass.

A preface to lunch: James O'Brien

Underdogs are sometimes overrated



campuscolumnist

I know no one likes negativity (except for maybe me) but I've concluded that this general abhorrence toward nay-sayers is partially based on the media's positivity propaganda. To illustrate my point, let's examine the Nike commercial from a few months back that depicts female athletes talking into a megaphone, trying to get us — and, most likely, themselves — excited about women's sports. First, some old guy — presumably a legendary former coach whom around four percent of the nation can identify — steps up to the megaphone and says, "Female athletes have to overcome the bias that their game isn't as good as the men's game." Then Gabrielle Reece, a professional women's volleyball player, speaks into the megaphone, saying, "Are boys bigger, stronger, faster? Yes. But ..." These are direct quotations from the ad and, unless I'm really missing something, there seems to be a contradiction here. Perhaps my definition of "being good" is slightly different than Gabrielle's or the anonymous old guy's, but I think being better, stronger and faster does indeed make the men's game "more good" than the women's game. There's no bias.

Now, I know it seems like Gabrielle and the nice old guy are right

in this case, but that's just because they're taking the underdog's side, the more popular, romantic position. This is the side that our instincts tell us to take because we want to be known as "open-minded" and "Sesame Street" taught us to be inclusive. But it is actually close-minded to continually take the underdog's side without thinking. I'm just trying to be realistic. I've dubbed this the "300 Complex" — more on that later.

As the faux-inspiring Nike commercial continues, women's volleyball star Gabrielle Reece gives the megaphone to a girl wearing a Red Sox shirt and a red backwards hat. This little dreamer proceeds to announce, "I want to pitch for the Boston Red Sox." Why are we getting this little girl's hopes up when we already established that men are better, faster and stronger? Congratulations to America's most dominant shoe company. You have encouraged a young tomboy to "dream big" when you really should have done the responsible thing and told her to play softball. She may be a better baseball player than I am, but, and I say this with confidence, she won't make the MLB.

Let me step back from the male-chauvinist angle for a moment. No matter which way you look at it, our romantic culture and looking on the bright side continues to get in the way of our common sense. People just seemed to be inspired by the silliest stuff. Let's take the movie "300." For those of you who haven't seen it, King Leonidas does a great job of holding off the Persian army fighting with only 300 buff dudes, but it really would have been a smarter diplomatic move if he had simply refrained from kicking the Rogaine-deprived Persian messenger into that incredibly deep well at the beginning of the movie. From there, Leonidas

makes one bad decision after another until he dies taunting the arrows that killed him. This inspired me about as much as "Requiem for a Dream."

The whole movie Leonidas kept justifying terrible choices by yelling, "Spaaaaarrtaaaa!" and flexing — as if that somehow explained it. Why did they name this guy king? I understand that "300" is meant to speak to our inner-Schwarzenegger, but it's funny to imagine what the movie would be if Leonidas were from Athens. He probably wouldn't have let bone-headed optimism get in the way.

On the other hand, America did gain its independence because some whiny loudmouths didn't feel like paying their taxes. They just kept using the words "freedom" and "tyranny" in letters and speeches until they tricked enough American farmers into fighting. Being unreasonable at certain times is only reasonable. It's the principle our country was founded on. And from what I learned about American history in fifth grade, "looking on the bright side" turned out to be the right move in the case of the American Revolution. Just don't tell that to the dead American farmer-turned-soldiers and the rotting British redcoats. They'll tell you we should have just paid our taxes and waited for England to realize it couldn't control a country 40 times its size.

Then again, in 2003, when George Bush felt like invading Iraq, he simply used the words "freedom" and "tyranny" a couple hundred times. Other countries argued that the invasion was a bad move, but Bush said, "Patriotism. America." Works every time. After all, who could argue with that?

James O'Brien '10 is an English major from Medfield, Mass.

web poll: What do you think about a Queer Studies Academic Interest House on campus?



"I haven't heard much about it."

—BEN JOHNSTON '11



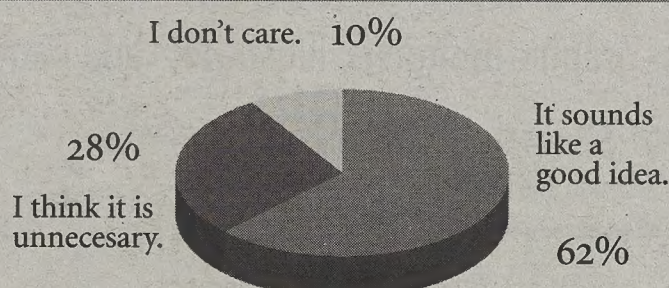
"It sounds like a good idea."

—HANNAH LOWE '10



"I bet they'll throw sweet parties."

—PHILIPPE BRONCHTEIN '10



Results taken from poll at www.middleburycampus.com

Next week's web poll: Should Orange Crush go away forever?

notes from the desk: Tess Russell Party themes not worth the effort

Last weekend, I found myself pregaming in a room with friends who were all bound for different destinations on and off campus. Looking around, I noticed that I was the only person present who was clothed in anything resembling normal going-out attire. I should mention I was wearing over-the-knee dominatrix boots, several weighty strands of fake pearls and — as the final accoutrement to my outfit — imposing satin headgear. (For the last time, it's a turban, NOT a doo-rag.)

You see, while my accessorization was simply a reflection of my personal style (or possibly of my belief that every day marks a new opportunity to pay homage to the iconic Olsen twins), my compatriots had succumbed to an altogether different fate. I'm referring to Middlebury students' seeming obsession with wacky costume parties. No longer content with old standbys like "Golf Pros and Tennis Hoes," we have resorted to concepts like "Contaminated Beach Party" and "Flandex," the latter of which involves wearing your favorite flannel and spandex ensemble. As I overheard someone saying on campus recently, "anything can be a party if you are wearing sunglasses and enough sequins."

While I fully support the desire to get everyone out of their weekday uniforms of sweats and snow boots, I find most of these themes to be at best tiresome and at worst extremely uncomfortable. Twice this year my night has been seriously hindered by a poor choice of wardrobe. The first of these incidents occurred when I put on my Amy Winehouse finest on the Friday after Halloween, a seemingly logical time to dress up. However, because the holiday extended in a diluted fashion for a week on each end, I happened to be the only participant at this particular event — the Ski Patrol raffle. The awarding of prizes was followed by a ski movie screening, which I watched in relative anonymity ... or so I thought. At least three-quarters of the way through the pre-

sensation, an obviously seething viewer behind me shouted, "Can you please take off your hair?"

After my second misstep — suffice it to say that a dress made entirely out of flimsy newspaper and an overzealous arcing motion on my Beirut shot were involved — I vowed to become the Scrooge of costume parties. Never again would I have to remember why, in a particular Facebook photo, I was sporting thermal leggings under knee-length denim cutoffs with a holey Nirvana t-shirt.

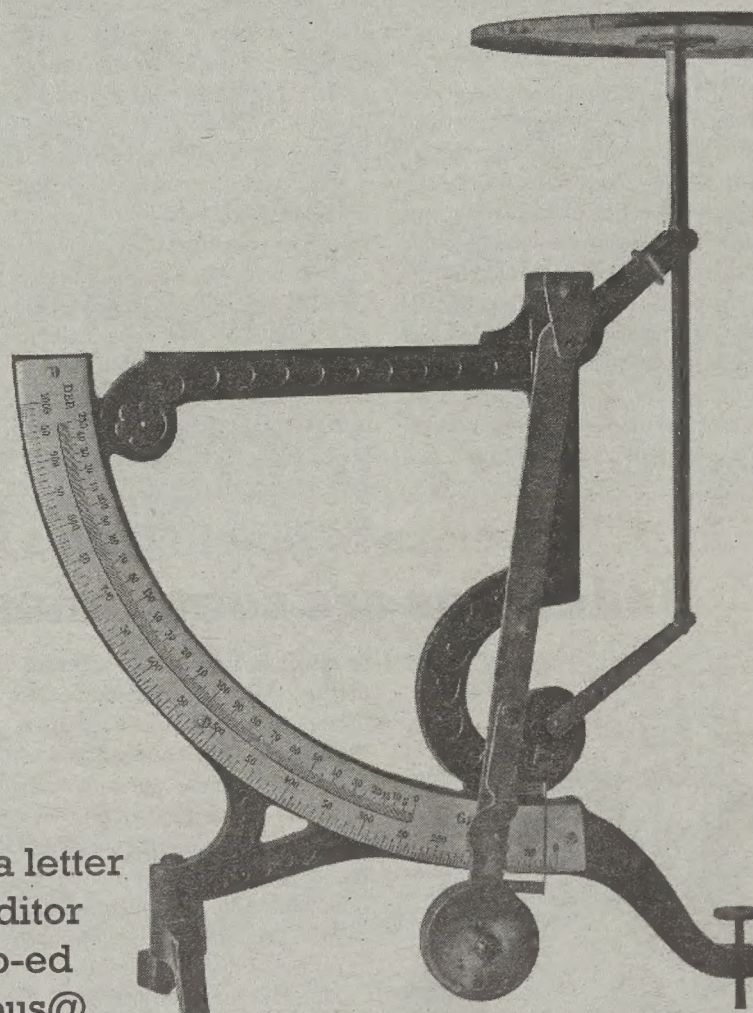
The main problem is that most of us do so much hopping around on the weekends that we never stay anywhere long enough to make it worth the commitment to a single themed look. I have witnessed two popular solutions to this problem. The first is to endure the wrath of the first party's hosts, as I do, knowing that you will have the last laugh when Public Safety breaks it up and all of your friends are stuck at a "Flava Flav" shindig in their neon ski parkas. Alternatively, you can devise an outfit just unidentifiably weird enough that it allows you to blend in at any gathering. Nehru jacket? Glow bracelets? Weird sunglasses? Old fashioned cigarette holder? Just pile it all on.

Still, as far as I'm concerned, we need a new approach. In fact, I've got a great party idea. I'm going to call it: "Wear something slightly nicer than your school dress and perhaps put a little more effort than usual into your hair." Yes, the name lacks a certain punch, but we would all look more attractive to each other — face it, unless it's a lingerie party everyone looks best in their normal clothes — and perhaps we'll be that much more willing to get decked out when a legitimately good reason comes along.

Note: toga parties are automatically excused from the criticism above, by virtue of being awesome and totally classic.

Tess Russell '10 is a Features editor from Baltimore, Md.

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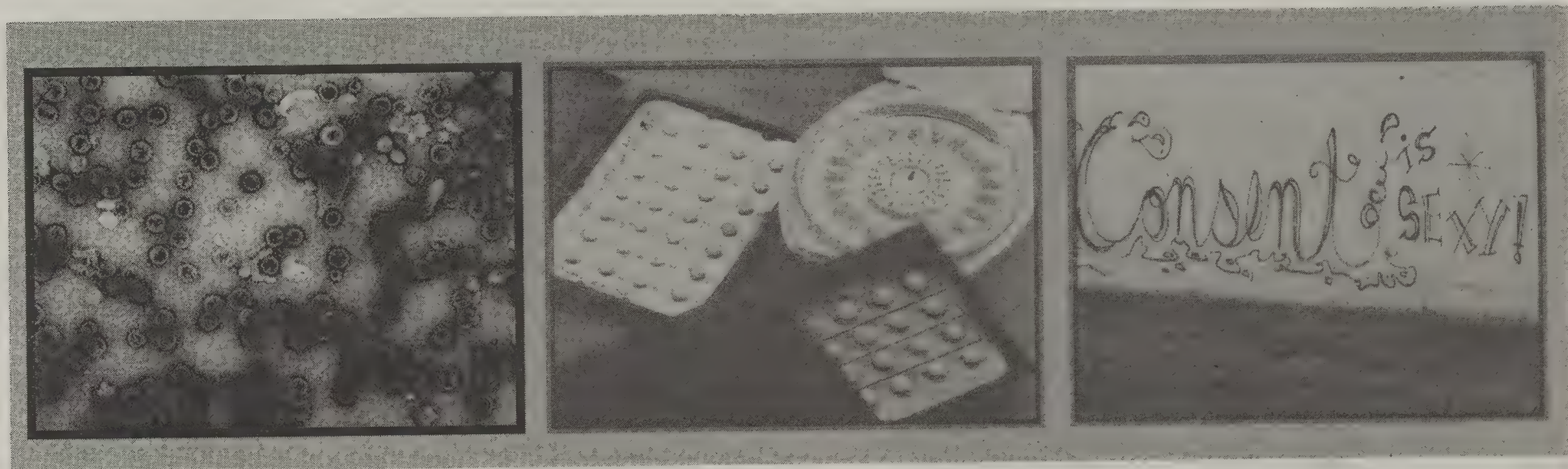
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SEX MATTERS



STIs: Get the Facts and Protect Yourself

In honor of "Let's Talk about Sex" month, this three-part series will focus on three different aspects of sexual health awareness over the course of the coming weeks. This week's installment, "Sexual Health and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)," discusses campus attitudes towards safe sex and examines the testing and vaccination services available through Parton Health Center. Part II will appear in next week's issue and will highlight concerns surrounding "Contraception and Pregnancy" at Middlebury, while also exploring the different approaches that male and female students take to sexual health. The final topic of the series, "Consent and Sexual Violence," will appear on March 6 and will delve into the gray areas of consent and sexual responsibility, particularly where alcohol and drugs are involved.

—Tess Russell, Features Editor

On Feb. 16, The Grille played host to a much larger dinnertime crowd than usual. The occasion was the "Find Someone to Love Dating Game" and the response, if judged by students' laughter, was surprisingly enthusiastic and even raucous at times. The set-up is familiar: one lucky guy or gal gets to grill three hopeful contestants who are hidden behind an adjacent screen. Among the Middlebury version's highlights were the entrance of one bachelor in a partially clothed state, and the attempt of one contestant to elicit a positive recommendation from his competitor by bartering with a banana.

The game, as well as Sunday's "Sex Toy Party" and numerous other workshops and activities planned for the upcoming weeks, was organized in conjunction with "Let's Talk About Sex" month, a new initiative co-sponsored by eight different groups on campus and spearheaded by the Office of Health and Wellness Education. The organizers' decision to host both fun, lighthearted events and more serious, academic ones marks a new approach to targeting sexual health awareness at Middlebury.

"We didn't want to just hit students over the head with the drier educational topics," explained Jyoti Daniere, the Director of Health and Wellness for the College. "Instead we tried to give them a forum to actually date — to take a risk. I've sometimes been surprised at how risk-averse this campus is, but the 'Dating Game' really exceeded my expectations in terms of how brave and open people were with their responses."

Student Wellness Leader Ari Gimbel '09, who is helping to coordinate the upcoming "Speed Dating" in the Mahaney Center for the Arts, stressed that promoting opportunities for dating at Middlebury is an idea that stemmed from student interest.

"We want people to know that there are other people looking for adult relationships," Gimbel said. "It seems like people here think the way it works is that you hook up with someone first and then getting into a relationship follows, but in reality that setup has failed people — hence the success of

something like the 'Dating Game.' People here want to date!"

But not all students are as forthcoming about their sexual health concerns or as knowledgeable about the College's resources as they could be, explained Kolbe Franklin '08, President of Feminist Action at Middlebury.

"Often there is little relevant communication between male and female students regarding sexual health, even between people in relationships," Franklin said. "In general, the topic of sexuality is very taboo here, and the initiation of discourse is key not only to keeping people safe, but also to creating a healthier and more fulfilling dating scene on campus."

As far as health issues are concerned, Daniere noted that some Middlebury students have a misguided notion of sexual

reasons, we make a notation in a student's file every time he or she visits the Health Center. These records are confidential — they are certainly not shared with the administration or the student's parents — but they are not truly anonymous because they are attached to someone's name."

The financial burden of testing is also one that the Health Center cannot carry on its own. While all medical consultations and many other services are free, some of the tests on the basic STI panel (which screens for HIV, Hepatitis C, chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis) have to be sourced out to Porter Hospital or a state laboratory facility. At that point, the fees may vary widely from student to student depending on their insurance plans.

These disparities are particularly important when considering highly expensive vaccinations and treatment, like the Gardasil shot that protects women against many strains of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV). Nearly 80 percent of sexually active women over 50 are carriers of some strain of HPV. Gardasil, through a series of three inoculations, prevents infection with the two strains that cause seven out of 10 cases of cervical cancer. Unfortunately, if not covered by insurance, the vaccine is almost prohibitively expensive at close to \$400.

Still, vaccination and testing services are relatively popular among students, Jenny noted.

"We have had a lot of girls come in to inquire about the vaccine or to get the second and third shots of the series they started at home over the summer," she said. "We also see a lot of people coming in for STI testing and women coming in for routine gynecological exams. We ask them if they are concerned about anything in particular — whether they have any symptoms — but often they've just heard or read that it's a good idea to get tested or they're doing it because they just got involved in a new relationship."

Daniere agreed that this "peace of mind" testing is an excellent idea. "You'll be safer and more comfortable after you find out what your status is," she said.

PART ONE

security on our sheltered Vermont campus. "Many students think that because we have such nice, smart, clean-cut kids here that no one has diseases," she said. "But that's a false and risky assumption."

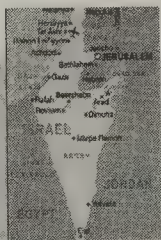
In fact, Middlebury students are likely representative of the national college student body, which means that approximately one out of four students at the College is carrying an STI, even if that person is asymptomatic.

Yet the sweeping popularity of the HIV-testing clinics offered last November would suggest that students do understand the risks involved in sexual activity and take appropriate measures to insure their sexual health. The appointments, funded by the Student Global AIDS Campaign but held on site at Parton Health Center, filled up almost immediately.

Terry Jenny, the associate director of the Health Center, explained why these clinics are not a more common occurrence here on campus.

"We are working on providing free, anonymous testing here, but at the time are not able to," Jenny said. "For liability

Israel in the House
Professor Nachmias comes to
Midd., page 17



Thompson Talks
One senior's perspective, page 17

Facebook Foul
Big Brother is watching, page 16

facebook

Sex toys give off the right vibe at workshop

By Dina Magaril
FEATURES EDITOR

Sex is as ubiquitous on a college campus as are midterms and winter break, but Middlebury added a little spice to its Sexual Awareness Lecture Series this past Sunday by hosting sex toy extraordinaire and independent consultant, Kristin Lawson of Passion Parties. Lawson, a self-employed wife and mother of three, came prepared with a show and tell array of lubricants, sex toys and manuals that would make even a sex connoisseur blush, or at least admit that this woman had something to offer.

Passion Parties has been a supplier of sensual products throughout the United States and Canada for over 14 years, ranging from edible lubricants to battery operated toys. The company prides itself on being "founded by women for women," and encourages "sexual intimacy between two partners," and it is this message that convinced Morgane Richardson '08, an organizer of the event, that Lawson would be a great contributor to the college's ongoing campaign on sexual awareness.

"People are having sex, students are connecting with one another in that emotional and physical way which is great....We are not saying, 'hey, stop having sex,' but 'yes, sex is good, do it if it feels right, but most importantly be safe,'" Richardson said.

"This here is a get laid insurance policy," Lawson proclaimed as she exhibited one of her bestselling items — a pheromone-inducing oil for both men and women. She then proceeded to test the product out on the first row of the packed auditorium, joking that two students sitting next to each other might not be able to contain themselves in a few minutes.

Lawson's vivacious personality, frequent demonstrations and bawdy language created a comfortable and tight-knit environment in a crowd that reached nearly 100 students.

Lawson shared some stories of her own sexual peaks and lows as well as those of satisfied customers. One story involved 500 dollars worth of vibrators and an airport security officer in Burlington International Airport, an event that Lawson shamelessly laughed at. "My children were horrified and people were covering their kids' eyes," she recalled.

Perhaps the most relatable aspect of Lawson's demonstrations involved the all-too-accurate descriptions of the often mundane college sex life she described, an experience Lawson herself laments. Though her passion parties and collections were originally marketed for the 30-and-up crowd, Lawson said college students would find her toys more than useful in "trying to speed up the good sex part."

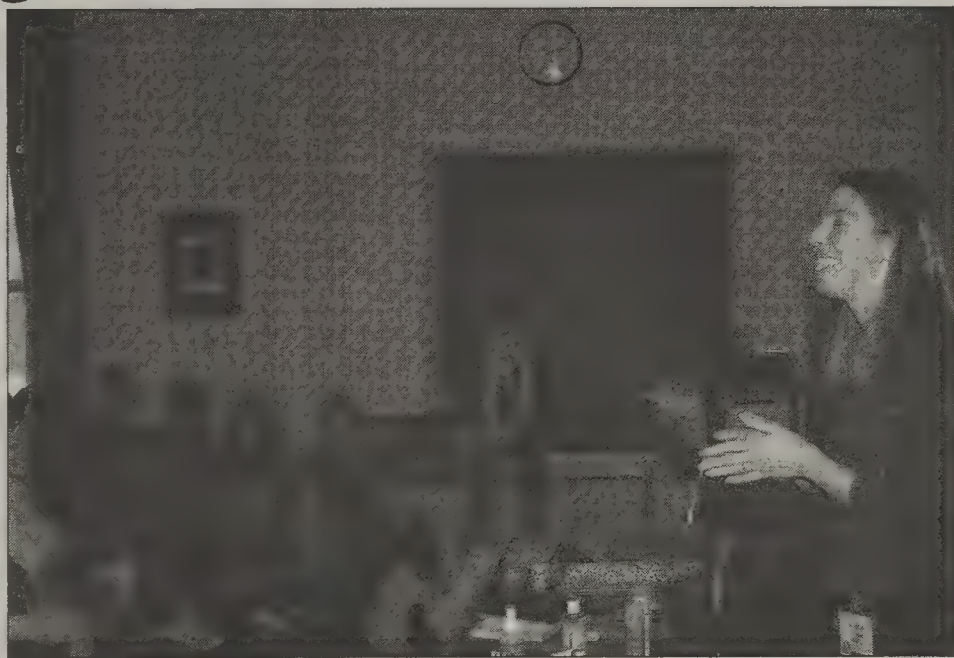
To prove this end, Lawson passed around her line of edible lotions and some "nipple nibblers," a strawberry cream that could be used to initiate foreplay and even gave a "hand job" to two girls in the first row using an edible lubricant and heated hand massager.

The Passion Parties company has expanded to 45 women and is growing every day, said Lawson. The best part about her job, she said, is that she "gets to work a few days out of the month and have fun while doing it."

Though the turnout included a good mix of both men and women, many of Lawson's products are geared towards women, including a variety of G-spot sex toys like "Jelly Clitorific," an anatomically correct bright pink dildo, and "The Velvet Curve," a multifunctional battery-operated toy that Lawson warned was "not for beginners."

The boys were not all forgotten in the demonstration and were even the topic of Lawson's main event, packaged in a popular toy: "Gigi," a neon yellow "masturbation sleeve" that users claim induced an orgasm in "under two minutes."

"Best of all, it swallows for you," said Law-



Steve McCombe

Sex expert Kristin Lawson engages crowd with line of sensual products for men and women.

son as she demonstrated how to seal the top of the elastic tube to avoid unnecessary clean up.

Lawson strongly recommended the strawberry and vanilla edible lubes which recharged in water, expanding one's options of sexual activities to include "showers and baths."

"Wetter is better," she said, "and water is not a lubricant, so use one," she advised.

Above all, Lawson stressed the importance of feeling comfortable with your partner and practicing safe sex. Richardson could not agree more. "The safest sex is with your velvet ripples vibrator!" Richardson joked.

Aside from providing entertainment for a couple of hours, Lawson succeeded in signing on new and enthusiastic customers, judging from the crowd that assaulted the order forms after her demonstration was complete. All of Lawson's products can be bought online,

under a discreet heading for those who share their parents' accounts.

And while Lawson's solution to Middlebury's often-stagnant sex scene — two AA batteries — might be oversimplified, there did not seem too be many complaints.

"People tend to be shy about issues around sex, especially about sex toys. With the turnout, it was clear that students wanted to talk about it and learn more," said Maegan North '08. "She was really funny and personable. She made the workshop comfortable and candid."

Lizzie Quinn '09, was another pleased customer who agreed with Lawson's mission. "People need to get more play and be more happy with the play they're getting," she said.

To shop online or host your own passion party visit www.yourpassionconsultant.com.

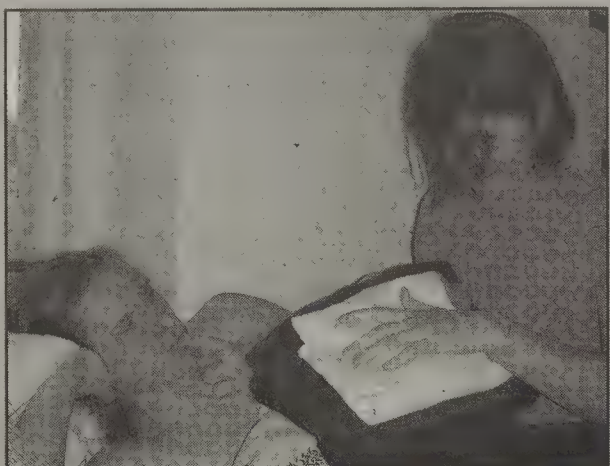
Post hook-up etiquette: do's and don'ts

In honor of the popular "Let's Talk About Sex" month, *The Campus* offers a few tips and tricks for those sometimes awkward encounters after your amorous interactions. Whether you're traversing tricky territory the morning after a fling or bumping into an old flame in the dining hall, the best bet is always a dose of good manners and common sense.

The Morning After



DON'T: Sneaking out while your unsuspecting hook-up is still blissfully asleep is just in bad taste.

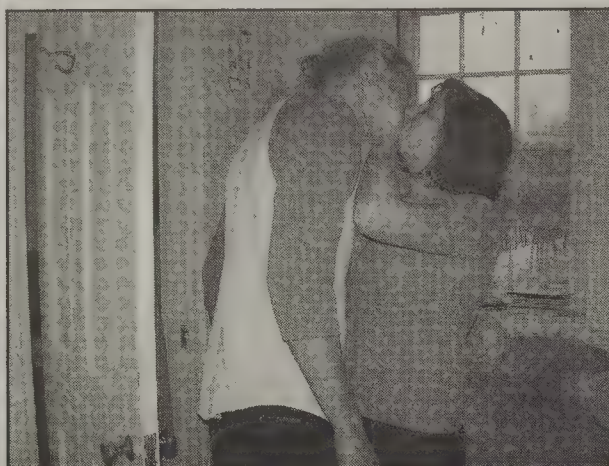


DO: Sharing a moment and maybe some stimulating conversation.

Saying Goodbye



DON'T: Parting ways with a formal handshake is not the correct response after a night of passion.



DO: Rekindling the fires of the previous night with a farewell smooch or some morning sex.

First Dining Hall Sighting



DON'T: Avoiding eye contact at the dish station is a faux-pas — you've seen each other naked!



DO: Eating your first "post" dinner together is a surefire way to keep that romance — or new friendship — alive.

photos by Angela Evancie

THE FEW. THE PROUD. THE FEBES.



What's in a decimal point? For some, it means by natural disaster. For others, it means playing abroad.

For all Febes, however, being a ".5" student feel drastically different from what most high school college experience.

Those differences at times crop up in unexpected places. For instance, often find that they must enroll in the college for their time abroad. On the other hand, since the Febes, which place a heavy emphasis on the experience of a university system. From admissions to social and life, the famed "ski-down" graduation, we found above all Febes feel.

Reporting by Mary Lane and Derek Schlickeisen

Feb admissions: By choice or by force?

Febes hold a unique place, not just here at the College but in the American university system more generally. While the idea of taking time off after high school is more in vogue today than it was even a few years ago, the Febes who arrived this week are still something of an oddity: in addition to Middlebury, only Colby College in the NESCAC and a handful of schools nationwide offer mid-year enrollment programs.

"It's put Middlebury on the map as an institution that is in favor of taking time off," said Robert Clagett, the College's dean of Admissions. "I think more people are seeing the value in that as the anxiety that surrounds the whole college admissions process grows. Students can step off the treadmill, smell the roses and take stock of what they want to do with their education."

Yet, even as more students in the U.S. are opting to take time off, the Feb program at Middlebury is shrinking (although not, as Clagett is quick to point out, towards eventual elimination). In 2003, the College enrolled 130 students as Febes. By 2007, that number shrank to 104. As the size of each Feb class has shrunk, however, the percentage of students who accept their offers of February admission has actually risen — from 56 percent in 2003 to 67 percent last year.

"One of the goals of the Strategic Plan was to make the Feb program more voluntary, which would mean that more students who came as Febes actually requested it," said Clagett.

Part of that rise may be attributed to the College's efforts to sell the benefits of being a Feb, both on and off campus. In addition to entire sections of printed admissions materials devoted to the Feb program, the College holds panels during April visitation days in which Feb panelists discuss why their experience has been valuable.



Grace Duggan

The Feb program, according to Dean of Admissions Robert Clagett, will be reduced in size rather than eliminated. "The Feb program allows us to admit more excellent applicants," he said.

"It's taken me a while to get my hands around the concept of being a Feb," said Clagett, who is in his third year at the College. "It's easy for us to see why that time off could loom pretty large for the type of fast-tracked, focused students Middlebury admits. But to me that period of stepping back is what has the most value. The experiences those students have — whether they stay home and work or go to South Africa — are very valuable."

"We make a strong argument for being a Feb in our literature," said Clagett. "Febes end up holding a disproportionate number of leadership positions on campus, and they're among our best students."

Indeed, while Clagett said the main point of resistance his office encounters among February admits is the perception that they were given a lower priority in the admissions process, Febes' SAT scores and GPAs are roughly the same as other admits.

"If they're really well-informed, and they've read our literature carefully, they're concerned about academic downsides, like not starting a language or pre-med courses in their first semester," he said. "But that's a minority. The main concerns are at a subliminal level, and we do our best to dispel those."

Even as the College continues to shrink the Feb program (next year's target will be a class of 90), it continues to sell the experience as a unique opportunity for a few choice students.

After Midd: Breaking in

We have all heard it: the disappointment, dread or begrudging acceptance with which Middlebury students anticipate leaving the beloved "bubble" and entering the real world.

For Febes, however, this experience common to all college students is made somewhat unique by the timing of their entrance into the workforce.

"It can be a significant advantage because there's not as much competition for positions at that time of year," said Don Kjelleren, senior associate director of the Career Services Office (CSO). "Most of the jobs we post on our Web site are available immediately, which means that Febes can apply for jobs that begin in February or March. So Febes actually get a lot of extra jobs through our site that May graduates don't get."

Yet this upside — the chance to avoid the summer employment rush — comes with the inevitable drawbacks of a Career Services program designed primarily to fit the regular September-to-May school year that most employers are used to.

"As Febes, we enter, exist and leave Middlebury on a strange half-year schedule," said Suvi Neukam '07.5. "This fact was no different for my job search. Febes cannot do the 'senior steps' and are even discouraged from attending the CSO meeting during the fall of what I considered to be my 'senior' year. Consequently, I had a mere couple of months to figure things out before my graduation, as opposed to a whole semester and a half like the rest of the 'real' senior class."

Neukam added that the particular types of employment for which the CSO has strong recruiting programs did not necessarily fit her job interests.

"I believe that Middlebury highly emphasizes the finance and consulting industries over scientific research, entertainment, art or even the possibility of graduate school," she said. Her lack of interest in finance, she explained, meant that she found herself doing a lot of independent networking.

Ken Nakamura '06.5 agreed, adding that he was fortunate as a Feb to have different interests.

"If you're going into finance, you're obviously going to miss

Inside the bubble: Feb life at the College

It is late into February and while the class of 2011.5 has only just started settling into Middlebury, Senior Co-Chair of Feb Orientation Patch Culbertson '08.5 has already started e-mailing back and forth with the Early Decision admits.

Culbertson and fellow co-chair Becca Cobbs '08.5 work in tandem with Associate Dean of the College Karen Guttentag and Feb Orientation leaders to adjust Febs to life at the College, starting with mass e-mails to Febs and their parents in December.

Culbertson acknowledges that many Febs have a difficult time, at least initially, adjusting to a larger September-admit first-year class which has already had a semester to bond. "The Febs who are put in freshman housing adapt the best," he said. "And then you also have the Febs who are living in Starr surrounded by juniors," Culbertson added, citing such potential isolation for Febs as one of the reasons the orientation leaders work to promote Feb-Reg integration throughout the entire spring semester.

"One of the original intentions of the Feb program was to fill beds that were opened by juniors who were going abroad, so I don't think you can resolve the housing situation," Culbertson said, putting the onus on the leaders whom he and Cobbs began selecting in October 2007.

Despite the hurdles surrounding the potential isolation of Febs during their first semester and their integration with the September-admits of the same year, Culbertson remains a proud Feb.

"The success of the program is built off the enthusiasm and dedication of Karen Guttentag, the Feb co-chairs and leaders," said Culbertson. "It's students investing in students."

Despite attempts by Feb leaders and the administration to make the social transition for Febs as smooth as possible, many Febs still find difficulty integrating themselves into Middlebury's social scene. Some turn towards the social houses for an opportunity to find their social niche at the College.

Jessica Tietjen '08.5, a member of Omega Alpha (The Tavern), had to take a semester off before coming to Middlebury in order to make money to help pay for college. She also saw more abstract benefits to taking a semester off before college. "That semester was a good time to refresh and regroup," she admitted.

Her first semester at Middlebury, however, Tietjen found it hard to find a social group within the community. "I didn't really mesh with any of the Febs in my class in particular, and it was hard to integrate into all of the freshman Reg cliques," she said. After going to a few parties alone her first semester in order to meet new people, Tietjen decided to rush a social house the next fall. "I was determined to meet new people, which is why I pledged Tavern," she said.

Middlebury students are not allowed to rush social houses until the first semester of their sophomore year, which gives Febs an advantage as they have the opportunity of one more semester in a social house than their Reg counterparts. Tietjen admitted that this is a benefit to being a Feb, as she found the extra semester in the house advantageous in creating a more cohesive social circle. That extra semester in the house also gives Febs two chances to run for president or vice president of social houses, as leadership positions in Middlebury social houses run from the middle of the academic year to the next. "It's done this way so that the new president can get help from the old one," said Tim Reed '08.5, president of Omega Alpha from Nov. 2006 to Nov. 2007. The transition process becomes much easier.

As a Feb, Reed did not have an extremely difficult time adjusting to Middlebury. "I was lucky. I was in a good place socially because I had nine other Febs on my hall," he said. "Joining a social house just expanded my network of friends and helped me make friends with more Regs," he said.

Reed admitted that an extra semester gives Febs social and leadership benefits that Regs do not have. "Regs can't pledge their second semester, so the whole social house experience is enhanced for Febs [who can]," Reed said. "I'm in favor of second semester pledging for freshman Regs because it's actually unfair that this is something only Febs can enjoy."

While the academic problems Febs encounter by matriculating a semester behind Regs may be minimal in many instances, this is perceived by many to present a major obstacle for many Febs wishing to take a foreign language their whole time at Middlebury, particularly those wanting to study abroad. Chair

of the German Department Roman Graf described the problem language departments face. "It is clearly more burdensome for Febs to follow the 'regular' German track," he admitted.

Assuming they had no prior German experience, Febs would have to attend language school and would face difficulty in going abroad for a full year. "Theoretically, they could opt to go to Germany for the spring and then fall semesters of their junior year, but that leaves them with a summer to cover in between," a situation Graf describes as "manageable but not ideal." Graf suggested that such Febs could do an internship in the months between these semesters abroad.

The 'Turbo Deutsch' course offered each spring by the German Department is an accelerated course in which all of first-year German is taught in one semester. "It is partially designed to assist Febs to 'get on track,' but it is primarily for students who learn languages quickly," Graf said. Many first-year Regs decide to take their first semester to adjust to Middlebury before enrolling in 'Turbo Deutsch,' joining many upperclassmen who seek to gain a basic knowledge of the language. This leaves fewer spots for Febs who wish to start the language. "We noticed this trend this year and will adjust accordingly next year by having more spaces reserved for Febs and other first-year students," Graf commented.

Graf added that "most Febs who actually have gone abroad had some German prior to coming to Middlebury."

Tyler Lohman '08.5 did not consider being a Feb starting German at Middlebury to be a major problem for him academically. "I had no experience at all with German before I came to Middlebury," he said. "It's the funniest language in the world."

While on the 'Feb track' described by Graf, Lohman took 100 level courses his second and third semesters here, summer school for the 200 levels and then a full year of 300 levels before going abroad for one semester. While he admitted the commitment to such a schedule may appear daunting and intimidating for many Febs, he did not regret it for himself. "I felt like going to German school for 200 level allows you to learn the most of any of the levels," he said, adding that studying the

language with no breaks "allowed me to see myself gain a foothold in the language and get to see an immediate progression."

"I would have liked to start German my first semester here," Lohman said, "but that was the only setback for me."

Natalie Sammarco '08.5 has taken Chinese at Middlebury since her second semester and studied abroad in Hangzhou, China in the spring of 2007. Sammarco was not originally excited when she learned she would have to enroll in Middlebury as a Feb. "I was so excited to be accepted to Midd and then I read the second line and was like, 'I'm matriculating in February? I want to be there in September with everyone else!'" she said.

Sammarco explained that she checked the option which allowed the admissions office to choose whether to admit her as a Reg or Feb, explaining, "I didn't want to not be accepted [to Middlebury] but I didn't put much thought into the Feb program."

Sammarco had studied Latin and Ancient Greek in high school, but was ready to start a new language. "I had never taken a language seriously and with the purpose of speaking it," she said. "I took Chinese because I wanted a challenge. I had heard of Midd's reputation for Chinese so I thought, why not be taught by the best?"

Sammarco was glad that she started it after she had a semester to adjust to Middlebury's work load. "Fourteen freshman dropped right away because of the work load and I probably would have quit if I thought college was going to be all work and no play."

In Sammarco's case, studying a language and being a Feb put her at a financial disadvantage from many of her classmates. "I was forced to do Middlebury's summer language school in order to not go abroad my senior year," she said. "That was more than \$10,000 of tuition."

Overall, Sammarco is happy she pursued Mandarin as a Feb but admits it has its challenges. "Because I took a language as a Feb," she said, "I studied it straight from September 2005 to June 2007 with no breaks, which is very daunting."



Feb leaders Patch Culbertson and Becca Cobbs '08.5 work closely with the Dean of the College's office to help Febs make the mid-year transition to College life.

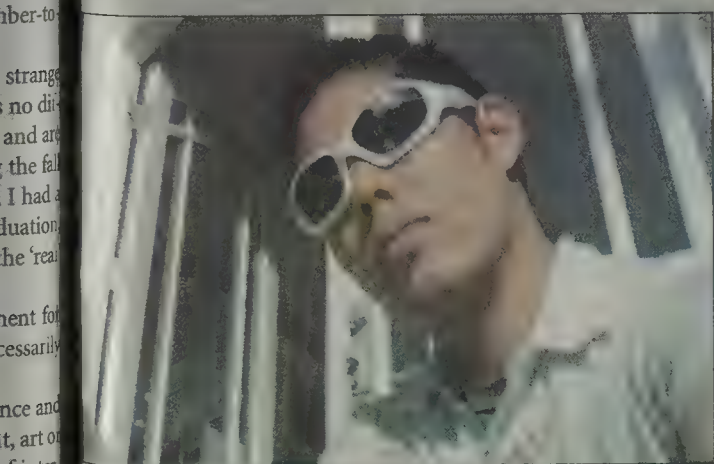
Mike Bayersdorfer

kin into the job market

the seasonal recruiting sessions by a semester, so you have to plan ahead," he said. "For me going into advertising, there was much less of a seasonal hiring cycle. I just happened to be lucky that my agency was looking for people to hire when I graduated."

Kjelleran said that Febs looking to break into competitive industries can make themselves more attractive to employers of all kinds by emphasizing their unique qualities, as well as those of Middlebury's uncommon mid-year program.

"Generally, employers are not aware of the Feb program, and it can be confusing in terms of dates that appear on graduates' resumes," he said. "But students can play that curiosity to their advantage, especially if they traveled or worked during that six-month period before enrolling at Middlebury. They have the potential to be a little more mature and pragmatic if they've used their time off to their advantage."



Courtesy

Ken Nakamura '06.5, now an associate at the TBWAChiatDay media firm in Los Angeles, was fortunate to graduate just as his company was looking to hire. Febs interested in other fields, such as finance, must often wait several months before starting work.



the ethicist

by Amanda Greene

Classes have started. Again. The magic surrounding J-term is definitely gone. It's goodbye to hour-long dinners, extended knitting sessions and pick-up poker games. That whole "really being able to nurture your social life" feeling is as gone as the euphoria surrounding Christmas morning.

Yet, the spring semester is accompanied by the anticipation of all things new. Change is exciting and challenging. The spring is a chance to start over, to find new favorite seats in classrooms and to develop new relationships with professors and your gym crush.

My recommendation: avoid shyness. You know that girl who says hello to everyone who walks by? Try to be like her! Do you sit next to four unfamiliar faces in your lit class? Make friends. Remember that unbelievably intense midterm that you have in a few weeks? You'll want someone to study with, or at least someone to complain to. Misery loves company and builds a sense of camaraderie.

Middlebury students have a tendency to forget that friendships are often the product of unusual circumstances. That person you vaguely remember meeting at a party, who your friend quickly introduced you to, who happens to sit a few rows behind you in bio, could be the person who inspires you to do Teach for America. We are surrounded by a group of students who all chose Middlebury, and our decision to go to school here gives us a connection that cannot be overlooked. You have more in common with the person behind you at the salad bar than you think. I promise. It's never too late to meet new people and to cultivate new relationships.

This past Saturday I saw David Coleman, the Date Doctor, and he emphasized the importance of paying attention to the people that you pass on a daily basis, who become part of the background if we are too comfortable with our surroundings. There are so many people that we see, but don't see. Middlebury College, keep your eyes open! It's a crazy world out there, with so much to explore right here on campus, in Vermont.

And now for this week's question:

Q: I'm a senior so I have first choice when registering for classes. This past semester I had one elective left to fill and had heard from my friends that a particular English class was incredible. The class was something that I was not considering enrolling in, and I had never heard of it before. I signed up for it, and was in line for breakfast last December when I overheard a group of English majors lamenting their inability to get into the class. I felt guilty because I had a spot, but remained in the course until I dropped it last week on BannerWeb. Was it unethical for me to register for and remain in the class when I had little intention of taking it?

—Anxious-about-Attendance

A: You are a senior and registration occurs based on class standing. When you were a freshman you registered last and had to take whatever classes had available spots. You are entitled to register for whatever classes you want, and to decide to take them, or not to take them, on your own timetable. After three years the system favors you and is yours to navigate. That said, it would be admirable for you to consider your peers who do not have such desirable registration access. It's not unethical to register for the most popular classes, but I would advise you to be compassionate and to only sign up for classes that genuinely interest you.

Want to consult the Ethicist? Send submissions to amgreene@middlebury.edu

Facebook poses employment dilemma

Networking site introduces function to delete profiles

By Roz Vara
STAFF WRITER

Change is nothing new to Facebook these days. Log on right now and you will probably find three or four requests to become a member of the newest bizarre applications. But last week, Facebook finally made a change that may prove to be a worthy one.

In the past, Facebook users ready to put an end to their days of stalking attractive classmates and keeping tabs on old high school friends had only one option — deactivating their online profiles. What exactly does "deactivating" mean? Certainly not the same thing as deleting, so after multitudes of complaints the company recently introduced an option that allows displeased users to delete their accounts once and for all.

This is an especially important feature for students just entering the job market who no longer want to have potentially incriminating information on the web. In recent years, rumors have abounded that many employers use Facebook as an alternative means of sizing up applicants.

Jaye Roseborough, the executive director of Career Services Office (CSO) at the College, acknowledged that online resources like Facebook are especially effective in staying in contact with old friends but recommends the College's alumni career volunteer network — MiddyNet Online — as a safer alternative. The Middlebury-specific site, Roseborough argues, provides an equally good way to stay in touch with alums, but provides fewer opportunities to post material that could be damaging in the long run.

"The downside of Facebook and similar sites centers on the temptation to post information and photographs that are not flattering and can be quite damning when viewed by those outside the College network — like a

potential boss," Roseborough said.

While Roseborough feels that the site's most recent change is a positive development, she remained skeptical as to whether or not the information is actually being deleted from the Internet entirely.

"It is my understanding that once that stuff is out there, it's out there," Roseborough said. "Witness all the young starlets who in their earlier years posed for photographs that they now wish would not surface and cast a spell on their newfound fame or relationship."

According to Roseborough, it is not only easy for employers to get access to a student's Facebook information, but it is common as well. She noted that many employers take advantage of the site to check out the "character" of their potential hires.

"If the site is full of drinking stories and photos there is sometimes a question of maturity," she said. "Students need to remember that they see the world through a college student's lens and that those in the employment world see it through a risk lens."

A recent CareerBuilder survey corroborates her assertion that employers take this sort of character assessment practice very seriously. The job search Web site found that 63 percent of hiring managers admitted to not hiring someone based on information they found online.

Lani Young '08 takes heed of Roseborough's advice by carefully censoring the type of information and photos she displays on her profile.

"If you wouldn't want your Mom to see it, you shouldn't have it on your profile," Young said. "For me, that covers anything I wouldn't want employers to see. I'm definitely sticking with a more conservative (and perhaps boring) Facebook account."

While Young plays it safe by minimizing the information she provides, fellow senior Katie Fisher '08 has taken advantage of her profile's visibility in an alternative fashion. Last year Fisher set her profile's "interested in" section to read that she was interested in both men and women.

"I put up both men and women last year in hopes of encouraging others on campus who feel uncomfortable about their sexual orientation to feel more at ease in sharing their preferences with others," Fisher said.

While Fisher is fully aware of the possibility of employers scrutinizing her information, she has chosen to use her online account for her own screening purposes.

"During my job search I considered removing that section from my profile," the senior psychology major said. "However, I concluded that if my employer would not hire me based on sexual orientation, I would likely not enjoy my working environment anyway."

This approach is advocated in January's edition of *Senior Spotlight*, the CSO's monthly newsletter, through an article (loosely based on one published in *Job Postings* magazine) that encourages students to view their online profiles as a supplemental resumé, referencing their interests and activities in a way that will reflect positively on their job applications.

For her part, Roseborough said that she has personally seen photos and read Facebook entries that would make her question hiring a student or taking them as interns.

"When you're entering a new world, especially the employment world, it's important to remember the old adage to put your 'best foot forward,'" she said. "I don't think there's a single one of us who is already out of college that doesn't look back on their college days and say, 'Wow, how embarrassing would that be if people found that out now?'"

electionupdates

With the election season heating up and the nominating process inching closer to an end, this section, which will recur throughout the semester, has been designed to give readers a quick look at key election issues. This week the focus is on Iraq.

Here is a look at some of the numbers that characterize the war to date as well as a look at the three remain presidential candidates' plan for handling it as Commander in Chief.

—Theodore May, Features Editor

Hillary Clinton: If President Bush does not end the war, when Hillary Clinton is president, she will. Her three-step plan would bring our troops home, work to bring stability to the region, and replace military force with a new diplomatic initiative to engage countries around the world in securing Iraq's future. Hillary has been fighting every day in the Senate to force the president to change course. And today she described how she would bring the war to an end.

Source: hillaryclinton.com

John McCain: A greater military commitment now is necessary if we are to achieve long-term success in Iraq. John McCain agrees with retired Army General Jack Keane that there are simply not enough American forces in Iraq. More troops are necessary to clear and hold insurgent strongholds; to provide security for rebuilding local institutions and economies; to halt sectarian violence in Baghdad and disarm Sunni and Shia militias; to dismantle al Qaeda; to train the Iraqi Army; and to embed American personnel in Iraqi police units. Accomplishing each of these goals will require more troops and is a crucial prerequisite for needed economic and political development in the country. America's ultimate strategy is to give Iraqis the capabilities to govern and secure their own country.

Source: johnmccain.com

Barack Obama: Obama will immediately begin to remove our troops from Iraq. He will remove one to two combat brigades each month, and have all of our combat brigades out of Iraq within 16 months. Obama will make it clear that we will not build any permanent bases in Iraq. He will keep some troops in Iraq to protect our embassy and diplomats; if al Qaeda attempts to build a base within Iraq, he will keep troops in Iraq or elsewhere in the region to carry out targeted strikes on al Qaeda.

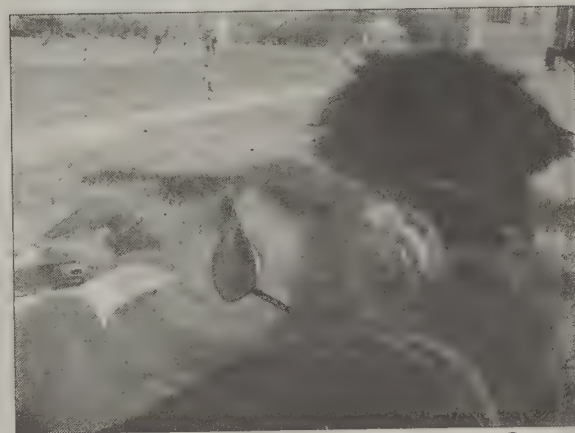
Source: barackobama.com

U.S. deaths in Iraq by month:
October 2007: 38
November 2007: 37
December 2007: 23
January 2008: 40

U.S. deaths since the beginning of the war: 3,963

Source: *Iraq Coalition Casualty Count*

15 minutes with... Maggie Carter '10.5



Courtesy

Childhood dream: To be Ariel from the Little Mermaid.

We can find you at: Ellipticising or at Atwater Dining Hall.

First crush: Julio from first grade. I grew up in Puerto Rico.

Greatest fear: Reading this once it gets published.

On your iPod: Gangsta Rap and Techno.

Favorite meal at the Grille: Turkey, bacon and avocado wrap.

Last purchase: Pink Valentine's Day Peanut M & Ms.

What you would do with a million dollars: "The Endless Summer."

Greatest indulgence: www.facebook.com.

Favorite superhero: Gisele Bündchen. Any girl who can score Tom Brady is a goddess!

Pet peeve: Long, unkempt nails; when people chew with their mouths open; and when people steal food off of my plate.

Hero: My dog Cody.

Most embarrassing moment: Where do I start...

Israeli professor brings politics into the classroom

By H. Kay Merriman

STAFF WRITER

This semester, the college is hosting Rosenbloom Visiting Scholar-in-Israel Studies David Nachmias. Nachmias brings copious amounts of experience, study and even controversy to the two courses that he is teaching: "Politics in Israel," and "Political Corruption and Governance."

Nachmias was raised in Israel by parents who fled Bulgaria during the Nazi invasion and found refuge in what was then Palestine. From the early stages of his education, Nachmias was interested in politics. "With politics, you can change things for the better," he said.

Nachmias has also enjoyed an illustrious career in academia. He received his B.A. from Tel Aviv University before coming to the United States to complete his Ph.D. at the University of Oregon. Throughout the course of his studies, Nachmias has specialized in democracy, public policy, methodology of social sciences and Israeli politics. With an interest in both politics and academia, he had a hard time determining which career path to pursue. Deciding that he was more comfortable teaching in an academic arena, Nachmias wrote and published many books concerning the topics of his specialization and guest-taught at numerous universities across the country. Prior to coming to Middlebury, he was at Washington University in St. Louis.

The scenery and the students of Middlebury have most impressed Nachmias. He enjoys long walks outside and interacting with his students, who he said are challenging and interesting.

"It is gratifying to have such smart students," he said and elaborated that he is fortunate to teach students from diverse backgrounds who can bring an international perspective to the classroom. Their experience, he explained, is particularly valuable in his "Political Corruption" class because some of his students come from countries governed

and encouraging us to look at issues from various perspectives."

"It's very refreshing to have a professor from Israel who has taught at a university in Israel as a supplement to the other experts in Middle Eastern Studies already at the College," said Dave Wood '08. "David gives valuable insight into the intellectual world of Israel, which previously had been a weak point in Middlebury's Political Science Department."

Many of these experiences originate from Nachmias' tenure as a Senior Fellow Emeritus

Hebrew, and its Web site defines its mission as "to advance equality between Arab and Jewish citizens of Israel in government budgets, resource allocation, hiring policy, land usage, access to government services, etc."

His study of and involvement with Israeli politics has led Nachmias to develop an enthusiastic appreciation for the political traditions of his home country.

"The Israeli society is very diverse," he said. "There are a variety of subcultures and ethnic backgrounds that make Israel a fascinating place to visit and to study. I'm really proud of Israel because it has succeeded in maintaining a democratic system and a democratic culture in spite of adversity."

Nachmias has seen and experienced how a nation facing turbulent times can work to sustain a democracy. So, will Nachmias continue to teach about Israeli politics or will he leave behind academia in favor of a full-time political career? Nachmias joked that when President Woodrow Wilson was asked how he transitioned from being president of Princeton University to president of the United States, he responded that he found that presidential politics were actually much easier than academic politics. For now, though, Nachmias is content dealing with the academic politics and teaching about presidential politics.

I'm really proud of Israel because it has succeeded in maintaining a democratic system and a democratic culture in spite of adversity.


—David Nachmias

by corrupt democracies.

Nachmias's students, in return, appreciate the experience that he brings to the classroom.

"David is such a witty and engaging teacher whose passion for politics is contagious," said Mia Lieb-Lappen '10. "He is constantly providing thought-provoking facts

at the Israel Democracy Institute and the Romulo Betancourt Chair in Political Science at Tel Aviv University. Nachmias' teaching is also enriched by his participation as a political activist in Israel. He is a member of the volunteer organization Sikkuy: The Association for the Advancement of Civic Equality in Israel. "Sikkuy" means "chance" or "opportunity" in



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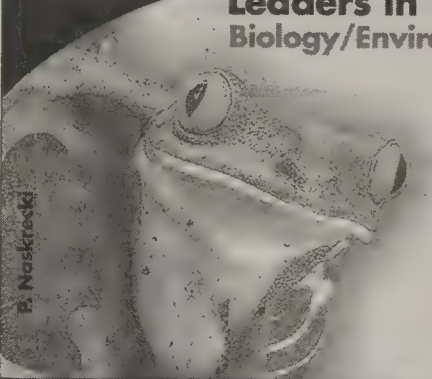
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Spring 2008 Informational Meeting

Interested in working on Middlebury College's only student weekly newspaper? Join us this **Sunday, Feb. 24, at 8 p.m. in the Munroe Lecture Hall** to learn about how you can get involved. We have a lot of exciting opportunities ahead of us this semester: in addition to the work we've always done with print media and online journalism, we're continuing to expand our operations to include audio and video journalism online. Whether you're interested in writing articles or columns, taking photographs, working as a layout editor or exploring new territory with online media, there's a place for you at *The Campus*.

Members of the editorial board will be available to speak about their work on the paper and field questions about the publication. Come meet your editors, sign up with individual sections, or get in on the ground floor with our new multimedia operations.

Contact campus@middlebury.edu or kflagg@middlebury.edu if you are unable to attend the meeting.

Dining hall cutbacks disgruntle students

tell 'em
thompson

by Thompson Davis

Insights on the fabulous life of Thompson Davis and the waning days of one senior's year

As I thrashed around with the class of 2008 at the 100 days party, I was overwhelmed by feelings of camaraderie, community, and happiness. And then I had a panic attack. I realized, on that dance floor, that I was going to be gone. Soon. And I was scared.

Presented below are the four things I fear most about the real world. From observing adults, I've come to understand that the healthy functional ones do this stuff at least some of the time.

Commitment—“I’m a stallion, baby. I was born to run.”

I have trouble picking sandwiches at Subway. I go in thinking I know what I want but as soon as I see the menu I freak out. If one takes into account all the different toppings and breads there are several thousand sandwich-combinations. I’m not picky either. I get anxious—in life and at Subway—because once a choice is made, there’s no going back. You have to buy that sandwich. In stark contrast, I’ve spent four years learning new things, exploring options, and actively avoiding responsibility. I’m at a liberal arts college, for Pete’s sake! Committing to a job, or a person (yikes), although inevitable, will be a big step for me.

Dating—“I think I really like you.”

Real dating. At first glance it may seem like a series of unnecessary challenges and obstacles, but it must have some very real advantages. On T.V. and in the movies, people date each other willingly. While I assume that dating is more intimate and fulfilling than “random play,” I will definitely miss some parts of college hook-up culture. For instance, where else would it be even remotely acceptable to invite someone over to watch Old School on a laptop, and call it a date? Where else is it ok to go to parties and publicly make out with sloppy strangers? Hallelujah for college.

Buying my own food—“Groceries?”

First you make a list, then your wife bitches at you because the fair trade coffee is too expensive, then you look for your keys, then you can’t find your stupid keys, then your wife laughs and says, “Funny, I had them in my purse the whole time,” as you say “Thanks Martha” and daydream about being married to someone else, then you get into your car and head for the supermarket but on the way your yappy kid calls you and says that he has to go home because he has lice, and now you can’t even go to the supermarket because you have to pick up your stupid kid, and then an elk walks right in front of your car but you don’t notice because you’re on the phone, and then you crash into it, and as your entire life flashes before your eyes and the darkness swallows you like a whale, you have one final thought...

Closure—“100 days to grow up.”

I’m having a blast being immature and spoiled but I know my life’s going to change. And if I don’t start getting ready now, I’m going to be a sad, reminiscent jerk. So I’ve decided: one by one I’m going to phase in the things that frighten me and grow up. In 100 days I will have a job, a legitimate partner, and I will cook for myself at least once.

By Rachael Jennings
STAFF WRITER

Students at Middlebury have plenty to say concerning dining services and many methods with which to get their voices heard. Perhaps the most popular are the paper comment cards that are posted on bulletin boards outside each dining hall.

The specific requests may vary, but all of these entries showcase the student body’s passionate stance on food, as reflected by the liberal use of capital letters. “PLEASE bring back the vegetable cream cheese,” begged one Proctor patron. Another was quick to compliment an entrée that was delicious, if somewhat hard to pronounce: “The chicken à la lu(?) dish today was AMAZING.” A third wished there was more consistency in her dining routine, noting that “sometimes there is corn at the salad bar, sometimes there is not. Please corn ALL THE TIME!”

Middlebury Dining Services also offers the comment feature on its website and is ever exploring the possibility of an online blog in the future.

This additional resource would “produce a real time tally of what people are feeling,” said Bo Cleveland, the Executive Chef at Proctor.

Cleveland stressed that the chefs and the rest of the Dining Services staff care about students’ satisfaction with dining facilities. In fact, Head of Dining Matthew Biette and his board meet, on average, once every two weeks to discuss current complaints, ideas, and methods for making the College’s dining halls progressively better.

So what were the main complaints voiced during fall term and how does Dining Services plan to address them?

In one word: granola. The disappearance of this delicious crunchy snack confused and upset many students. It was M.I.A. for all of J-term, and has just recently returned to the breakfast scene.

However, it has reappeared in a different form. In the past, the dining halls have made their own granola, but this fall they were relying on the Nutty Steph’s brand. After Nutty Steph’s decided to increase its prices, the dining halls withdrew the product from its cereal counter.

The College attempted to work with the locally-based company, suggesting less expensive substitutions for the pricier ingredients. These substitutions initially kept the granola at consistent levels but the negotiations eventually fell through.

At that point, the dining halls searched for a flavor profile in various granola recipes that matched the popular brand. Student feedback sifted back in when the chefs experimented with different compositions. Some tasters preferred sweeter varieties to more traditional ones, others desired dry oats over sticky, and still others enjoyed whole nuts as opposed to slivered almonds.

“We have to try to filter through and land on something to satisfy the students,” Cleveland explained.

The dining hall staff finally settled on a recipe and started toasting the oats and making new 100-pound batches of granola. To help manage this task, four or five student workers produce the granola twice each week. It takes three people two hours to complete a full batch, since the granola condenses in volume when the moisture evaporates from the mixture.

Cleveland noted that there was a “dry spell” in the production of granola right after January, which was due to these students’ leaving campus for February break.

Another frequently asked question appearing on comment cards concerns the lack of juice at dinner. Balancing the costs in any kitchen involves constantly looking for ways to conserve funds and juice is an expensive item. If the dining halls had continued to provide juice at dinner, they might have had to cut back on their purchase of proteins, which makes up another large portion of dining hall expenditures.

“The notion of the juice embodies our frustration with managing students’ money effectively,” commented Cleveland. “Many



Andrew Ngoew

Despite protests from students, Dining Services have stuck by their decision to get rid of juice during dinner in efforts to cut costs.

students ask, “What are you doing with all the money you are saving?”

As Cleveland explained it, the College is not actually “saving” money in the dining halls. Instead, the Dining services staff made these cutbacks in an attempt to “expand the students’ dollars.” Buying fuel, grain, and other expensive supplies adds up. The dining halls spend a lot of time balancing what students want with the expense of those particular items to provide the best quality dining for the funds available.

Given that all of the money is so precisely allotted and stretched, the dining hall staff wishes that with the all-you-can-eat platform of dining, students were simply more

responsible and selective about what they choose to put on their plates.

“Our hope is that we are trying an initiative to raise the awareness among the student population about the food waste,” said Cleveland.

With the money saved from cutting back on waste, the dining halls could provide more to satisfy the students. Those pounds of food sneaking back into the compost are wasted dollars that could better spent on juice at dinner, or more granola.

So try to reduce your waste and once in a while, try jotting down a positive comment: “Hey Proctor/Atwater/Ross: THANK YOU for all that you do for us!”

winners&losers

What’s hot and what’s not on campus and in pop culture?

The Campus gives its weekly report.

By Mia Lieb-Lappen and Molly Dwyer
STAFF WRITERS

Winter Carnival

Way to go committee. Thanks for re-vamping this tradition with BBQs and fireworks.

Last Free Friday

Enjoy it while you can. Next year’s student symposium won’t do much to raise school spirits.

The Oscars

Now that the strikes is over the seats will be filled and the writers will finally be represented.

TV-less Midd-kids

I guess we’re not responsible enough to handle our own TVs. Who cares about the outside world anyway?

Sex Toys come to Midd

Finally, a little bit of spice to a Friday night.

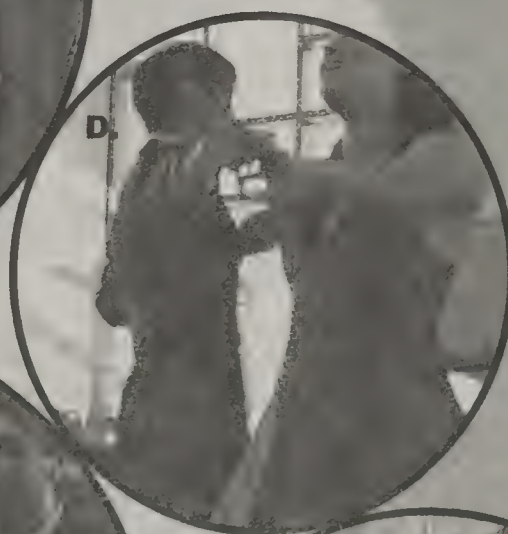
Friday Night with your Vibe

Sure it’s an option, but when it’s your only option...

The Middlebury Campus

The Winter of Our Content

photography by Grace Duggan
notes by Melissa Marshall



baubles for the ball: a guide to Winter Carnival fashions

Don't want to wear your prom dress to Winter Carnival? *The Middlebury Campus* heats up winter formal wear with festive fashion finds from Main Street. Whether you're feeling like a stylish sophisticate or a confident coquette, we've uncovered accessible accessories and outgoing outfits to ensure your carnival ensemble is the perfect fit.

For a color slideshow of all the looks go to <http://www.middleburycampus.com>

a. Sarah Simonds '11 goes for the ever-versatile little black dress and can't help but laugh at her charming date, Brandon Wong '11. His black suit may be a more formal choice but his attitude is anything but. (Ariella Dress, Glass Bead Game \$79).

b. Carefree and confident, Tiernan Meyer '11 makes this whimsical red dress all her own. From the dance studio to the dance floor, Cat Miller '11 knows that leggings can accentuate many looks, including this black babydoll (Mod-O-Do red dress \$38, Cubism babydoll \$68, Wild Mountain Thyme).

c. Following a day on the slopes Emily McDonald '11 joins Drew Harasimowicz '11 after a quick costume change. Harasimowicz's sleek interpretation of an American classic complements McDonald's more modern patterned dress. (Dress, Glass Bead Game \$54, Clutch, Bejewelled \$30).

d. Brandon Wong '11 takes his First-Year Counselor, Brittany Burnett '09, for a spin on the dance floor. Despite the glacial weather Burnett's attitude is anything but frosty in her fuchsia Kensie-Girl bubble dress. (Dress, Glass Bead Game \$64).

e. Challenging the conventional, Ty Flynn '11 looks sharp and sophisticated in jeans and a tan blazer while Dani Figueroa-Downing '11 defies "Labor Day Law" with a sleeveless white Lu LuVia dress. Flynn's Western belt buckle and Figueroa-Downing's bright red slingbacks stand out as unique flair. (Dress, Wild Mountain Thyme \$79, Shoes, Neat Repeats \$3).

f. Waiting for friends, Lauryn Torch '11 and Geoff Allen '11 look relaxed and high fashion. Torch expertly matches a pair of silver pointed heels with a green form-fitting dress. (Ariella Dress, Glass Bead Game \$90, Shoes, model's own).

editors' picks

21

**Asian Ceramics
Exhibit Opening**
Mahaney CFA

This exhibition explores the practical and social uses of ceramics in Asia. Asian ceramics are the most varied in the world: they have been used for vessels, ritual objects, sculpture and even for architectural ornament.

22

Dumpstaphunk
Higher Ground
Ballroom
8 p.m.

For a change of scenery, drive up to South Burlington and experience Dumpstaphunk, a funk band from New Orleans, sure to broaden your musical palette.

A Cappella Gala
Mead Chapel
8 p.m.

Coasts collide, as San Francisco's powerhouse group, the House Jacks, and the Cape's boys of summer, the Hyannis Sound, descend on the College for the finale of the 2008 A Cappella Summit.

23

23

Clutch
Higher Ground
Ballroom
8 p.m.

Clutch mixes punk, metal and rock to create a veritable smorgasbord of musical insolence. For the hard of heart, jump up to Higher Ground and check it out.

"Monologues" returns with same potency

By Eleanor Johnstone
STAFF WRITER

Last week's Day of Romance was uniquely celebrated on the Middlebury campus with Middlebury's annual student production of Eve Ensler's '95 "The Vagina Monologues," directed by Aaron Gensler '08 and Maegan Mishico '09. First compiled and written in 1996, the collection of monologues has become a cornerstone of the V-Day movement (Valentine, Vagina and Victory) which aims to celebrate and raise awareness of the nuances of women's sexuality and self-worth. Ensler preserves the voices of women who have suffered shame, fear and abuse at the hands of the common cultural discomfort with vaginas.

Though in her production Ensler admits that the word 'vagina' "sounds like a disease," the show encourages women to find and claim their sexuality as an empowering and fulfilling part of their identity.

"It's a great way of spreading awareness and maintaining a stance on women's issues," said actress Elizabeth Goffe '10 about the power of producing this show on an annual basis. "The script is also updated every year — Ensler adds new monologues and new information, keeping the script relevant to current events," she said.

Audience member Stephanie Spencer '09 had a similar respect for the play: "It's such a good show to do every year because it really reminds people of very important stuff about women that often gets pushed away."

The show is also valuable on a more personal level. When asked about the benefits of this theatrical tradition, Gensler emphasized the timeless quality of the issues it raises.

reporter was curious to know if the term seemed applicable to the play. "I don't think that 'feminist' is the right word for it," said Jimmy Wong '09.5. "(The play) covers all ranges of how females feel about and express their sexuality. There are a lot of positive themes that run through it."

As someone who felt slightly pushed around by last year's production, this reporter was delighted to see the show performed in a more raw and personal tone. Though the show was a very collaborative process for those who worked on it, Gensler said that one of the goals this year was to "take away all of the fancy things, pare it down to simplicity." She and Mishico encouraged the actresses to claim their characters and to use their texts as a channel for their own statements on vaginas and sexuality.

"One of the best things about being in this production was discovering that other women — both the characters in the play, and the group of women involved in this year's production — share similar concerns and experiences when it comes to vaginas," said Goffe.

"Vagina" is not a pleasant sound," Gensler admitted. "People don't always want to deal with things that are unpleasant. It makes sense. This is a way to be comfortable with it." A quick scan of the audience gave a good idea of how many people were willing to get comfortable with it. Males and females, of various ethnicities, races and ages were in attendance.

"There are equal benefits for the male and the female in terms of revelations," said Wong. "It does a really good job breaking down barriers of what people feel comfort-

It combines 'happy vagina facts' and 'not-so-happy vagina facts.'

—Elizabeth Goffe '10

"It creates this safe and bonded community where women are able to talk about their sexuality," she said. "I just think it's really valuable for girls to be involved with."

Actress Casey Donahue '10 agreed. "It's a great way to get a lot of women from all over campus together," she said. "It was a therapeutic process for me, and people who come to see this come away with a similar experience."

Given that contemporary opinion is increasingly wary of the term "feminism," this

able talking about."

"I heard so many positive comments from so many people — friends, complete strangers, men, women, students, teachers — about the show," said Goffe. "The script is powerful, and I think the way that it combines 'happy vagina facts' and 'not-so-happy vagina facts' really works well to generate awareness and interest about women's rights and issues."

"The Vagina Monologues" has been performed for 10 consecutive years at the College, and since its debut in 1998 has been one

simultaneously about one person and about all people. His latest release, "There Will Be Blood," is different though. Anderson jettisons the tongue-in-cheek humor one usually finds in his films and instead focuses on crafting a sweeping epic.

Using Upton Sinclair's muckraking 1927 novel "Oil!" as a jumping off point, Anderson tackles the California oil boom, which we see between the early-1890s to the mid-1930s. Daniel Day-Lewis plays Daniel Plainview, as the film follows his rise from a one-man mining crew to a ruthless oil baron. The key to his success is the dusty backwater town of Bakersfield, California — a town where Plainview finds an ocean of oil waiting for him just under the ground and settlers all too willing to sell their land. The only thorn in Plainview's side comes in the form of a 19-year-old boy (played by Paul Dano), a self-styled preacher who, like most people in the film, is looking for money so that he might expand his small country church.

Anderson has made a film that some might find difficult to like. The characters are selfish, greedy and nearly impossible to connect with. Even the character of the preacher, who in most other films would be seen as a protagonist, comes off as shrill and irritating. But those characteristics that most would find off-putting makes the characters fascinating, and because the film is so long it's easy to see how greed insinuates itself into the very fiber of their being. Anderson is less interested in the social



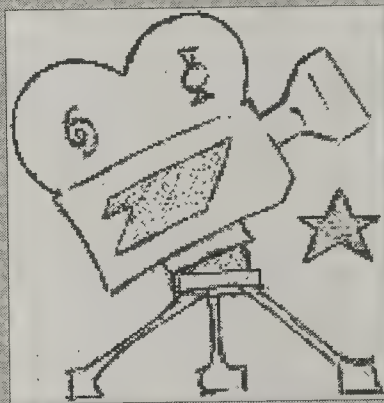
Bente Madison

Top: A trio of vaginas. Bottom: Directors Maegan Mishico '08.5 and Aaron Gensler '08

of the nation's most widely produced plays. As a versatile, informative and perpetually pertinent and provocative play, it has an important place in the mind of the Middlebury community. And just to top off the play's connection to the College, Goffe said it best.

"Eve Ensler is a Middlebury College graduate. That's just cool."

All proceeds from Middlebury's annual production of "The Vagina Monologues" go to WomenSafe, which provides services for the immediate needs of abused women.



THE REEL CRITIC

by Jason Gutierrez

MOVIE | There Will Be Blood
DIRECTOR | Paul Thomas Anderson
STARRING | Daniel Day-Lewis, Kevin J. O'Connor.

Indie auteur Paul Thomas Anderson was a critical darling of the late 1990s, with his films "Boogie Nights" and "Magnolia" firmly cementing his reputation as one of the most prominent rising directorial stars. His films tend to be paradoxical. They are dramatic, but have a strain of absurdist comedy running through them. They are intimate, but have an epic vision. They are

history of the California oil boom, but is instead setting himself to work on showing the dark side of the American success story. He and Day-Lewis have made a modern-day Charles Foster Kane, a man who has set out to better his living situation, and in so doing loses touch with the rest of mankind as greed overtakes his entire world view. Day-Lewis delivers a titanic performance as Plainview. He allows himself to become Plainview and pays little mind to whether or not the audience can connect with the monster he has created. It is one of the gutsiest and best performances in recent memory, and further cements Day-Lewis as one of the screen's greatest actors. Also impressive is young Dano as the irritatingly self-righteous priest, Eli Sunday. It takes a lot to stand alongside Day-Lewis' amazing performance, but Dano more than holds his own. As much as I would like to go through and praise every performance in the film, space prevents it, so I will just say, all the performances are fantastic, from Day-Lewis to Kevin J. O'Connor as an interloper claiming to be Plainview's brother.

I would be remiss if I failed to mention the score, composed by Radiohead guitarist Johnny Greenwood. His first foray into film scoring is fabulously successful. Drawing on influences from modern classical music he uses dissonant chords in the string section and unusual time signatures that, along with the stark cinematography of Roger Elswit, gives the film an unsettling feel.



Courtesy

I'm not sure if it would be correct to say that Anderson has grown as a filmmaker. He has always been a fantastically talented writer-director, but what is true is that this film has a drastically different feel from his other films. It is more mature, and he has a confidence in his images that some of his films seemed to lack at times. He allows his camera to linger on people as they work. Unlike his earlier films, he allows his characters' actions to speak for them (in fact you have to wait for 11 and a half minutes before you hear a character speak), and it's breathtaking. "There Will Be Blood" is a sensational film and one that marks the emergence of Anderson as a mature filmmaker who is a force to be reckoned with.

Guitarist strums to classical beat

By Andrew Thrö Dahl

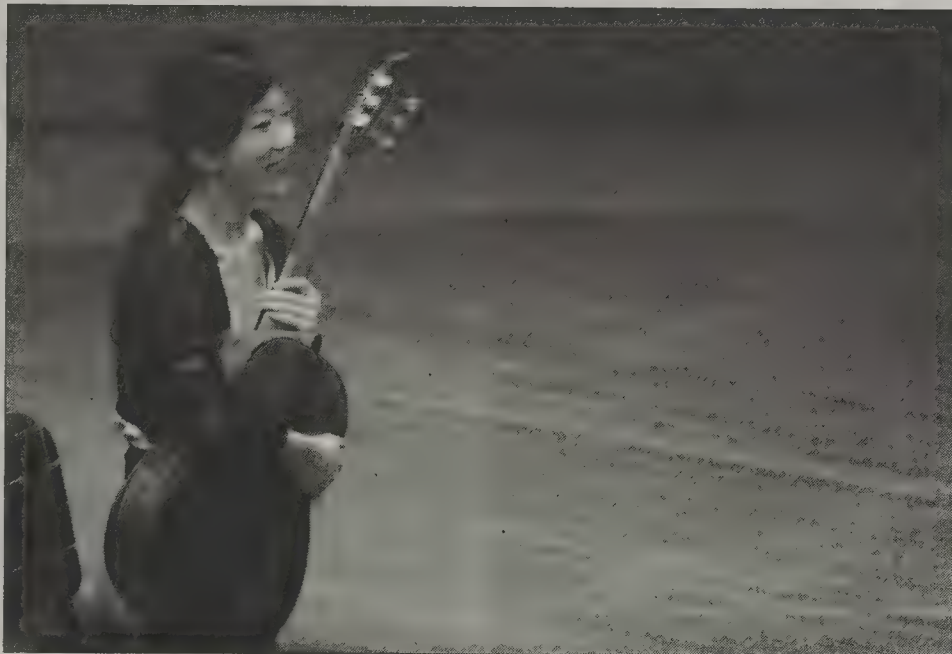
ARTS EDITOR

The guitar has a comparable range, flexibility and variety of timbre to any other popular solo instrument. Why then, is its repertoire limited to every imaginable pop song, volumes of Spanish and Latin American music and a splattering of Baroque music? When push comes to shove, the guitar really is not limited at all in its repertoire, and yet Feb. 14's concert in the Mahaney Center for the Arts Concert Hall may have come as a shock to audience members expecting the usual classical guitar fare.

The concert, given by Chinese guitar virtuoso Xuefei Yang — the first classical guitarist to be enrolled in a Chinese conservatory — presented the guitar's past and future, offering classics in addition to the broadened horizons of newer works. As polished in her appearance (decked out in a silky slip) as in her playing, Yang seemed to encounter no major technical obstacles. She was capable of emitting a glassy tone in her high register. She was equipped with a rather surprising dynamic range. To add to her technical achievements, her playing was especially sensitive to interpretation.

"Asturias" by Albéniz, a staple of the classical repertoire, was taken slightly slower than usual, and Goss's contemporary suite "Three Pieces from *Raise the Red Lantern*" (commissioned by Xuefei Yang) was played with the same respectful meticulousness as Rodrigo's "Tres Piezas." The first three works of the program, by scions of the guitar tradition (Albéniz, Barrios and Rodrigo), made "Three Pieces" all the more astonishing. The technique required to play this work seemed especially innovative — if not pianistic. Lisztian arpeggios whirled beneath a continuous melody in the first movement, and rustic glissandi and other "special effects" (a castanet-like contraption attached to her foot acted as a metronome) kept the third movement engaging.

The next work on the program, Yang's transcription of Granados' piano work "Valse Poético," a Spaniard's take on the Viennese waltz, was perhaps the loveliest music of the evening. With the added complication of more pianistic textures — this time blockier chords — Yang played as effortlessly as she had in the earlier works. On the whole it was a fine transcription, although at times faster melodic pas-



Ryan Scura

Xuefei Yang performed a surprising blend of guitar favorites and contemporary concoctions.

sages, which would have been crystal clear on a piano, came off as muddy, suggesting that the transcription bordered on the unplayable. In these faster passages, Yang could have tried to convey the structure more lucidly — simply by breathing between phrases or taking time over cadences. The charm of the more conventional passages muted any significant skepticism.

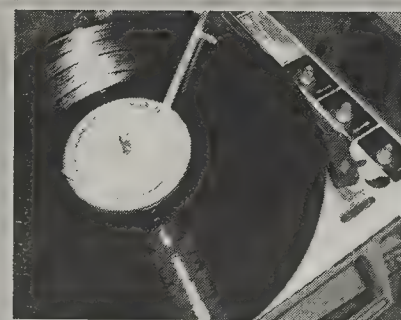
The subsequent work on the program, "Two Pieces from Latin America" by Antonio Lauro, consisting of the melancholic "El Condor Pasa" and the rhythmically riddled "Seis Por Derecho," emphasized the drastic differences between the Spanish and Latin American guitar traditions. Lauro's starker, more quartal harmonies contrasted nicely with the more conservative harmonies of, say, "Asturias." "Seis Por Derecho" verged on the confusion heard in the faster sections of the Granados due to its difficult three-four, six-eight juxtaposition, but any muddled passages seemed in keeping with the character. In fact, an interpretation of more reckless abandon might have been preferable.

Yang's tendency to casually tune the guitar between movements was sometimes too casual, at times became lost in the opening of the next movement or work, as was the case between the Lauro and the fantastic closing, "Sonata," by Cuban-born Leo Brouwer. With formidable technical challenges, powerful musical material

and a glittering finale, a work of this ilk deserves as much preemptive silence as possible. Of all the works on the program, the Brouwer sonata had the most to say, with a haunting ostinato in the first movement that stayed with the listener long after applause died off, and rich Bergian chords in the second movement that seemed to describe warm Havana nights. The aforementioned finale was an admirable toccata that brought to mind Villa-Lobos or Ginastera.

The first of two encores was the famous tango "La Cumparsita," but it was played with an undanceable amount of rubato. Yang's pleasant on-stage demeanor and prompt "encoring" suggested that she not only loved to play, but she loved to play for such a receptive Vermont audience.

Although she received a standing ovation, the applause were not as ecstatic as they probably would have been were she a pianist, violinist or vocalist — in other words, were she playing a fully evolved, familiarized instrument. It is difficult not to be enthusiastic about a musician like this who chooses to pursue an unfamiliar path for a classical musician, without compromising her integrity. Xuefei Yang is a true virtuoso — one who makes no memorable mistakes, explores her instrument's boundaries and has a complete command of the music. She renders most other guitarists obsolete.



for the record by Emily Temple

The Mountain Goats' John Darnielle is a musician's musician. If I had any doubts in my adoration for him and his projects, I would be reassured by the knowledge that I was in good company. All my other favorite bands like him too. A personal favorite reference: in "Girls Like Status," a B-side track from the epic "Hold Steady," Craig Finn growls, "It was song number three on John's last CD/ 'I'm going to make it through this year if it kills me'" — a reference to Darnielle's 2005 release, *The Sunset Tree*. *Heretic Pride*, just released on Tuesday, Feb. 19, is another one to be quoted and loved by regular doting college girls and rock giants alike. The newest of 16-odd records, *Heretic Pride* douses the listener in something both familiar and quite new — the songs are like short stories written by a burning genius and played for you by your best friend, who is just maybe a little bit in love with you and with whom you are also possibly just a little bit in love.

Darnielle's last album, *Get Lonely*, was the third installment in an autobiographical set of albums, a decidedly introspective experiment that, while I'm sure was cathartic for the man himself, left me pretty cold. I started up the 2006 album on a long car ride to some distant city, but only made it halfway through before my travel companion looked over and said, "Let's put on some real Mountain Goats." Of course, "No Children" it was, and then the devastating classic "Going to Georgia," and soon we found ourselves playing both *Zopilote Machine* and *Tallahassee* in their entirety before we were satisfied — before we had gotten the gloomy *Get Lonely* out of our heads and hearts.

Thankfully, *Heretic Pride* escapes that sad arc, and with room to spare. The album's first track, "Sax Rohmer #1" bursts from the gate uncharacteristically exuberant, while still assuring the loyalists that Darnielle's themes and hang-ups have not strayed: "I am coming home to you/ with my own blood in my mouth." In fact, Darnielle's lyrics are the centerpiece of all of his music — the instruments themselves seem only an afterthought, or at the very least merely a vehicle — or at least they have in the past. His voice is lilting yet strained, as if every word carries the weight of the world. *Heretic Pride* whirrs with strange ruminations and secret plotlines about dead reggae heroes, prom queens, hopeless urchins, Michael Myers, H.P. Lovecraft, some girl having a baby in a hotel bathtub and a host of other characters — macabre or precious, real or imaginary. As always, Darnielle sneaks into the back of your brain with sticky lines you can't quite make out but feel anyway.

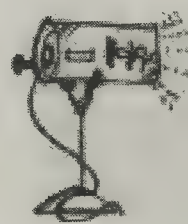
For me, nothing quite approaches the understated brilliance of some of his previous songs, but perhaps that is because on this album, the lyrics aren't given all the attention they deserve. Or perhaps it's just that the "background" music — traditionally a steady staccato strum pattern on a single guitar — has ceased to be background and has become a legitimate part of the package. *Heretic Pride* bustles with a big sound — the songs are fuller than any I've ever heard from Darnielle, and not always in a good way. As is already clear, I fell in love with the Mountain Goats through their sparsest songs and, while there is enough of that in *Heretic Pride* to satisfy me, there are also too many instruments and, more generally, people other than John Darnielle. The usually magnificent Annie Clark (of St. Vincent fame) sings back-up vocals on "Marduk T-Shirt Men's Room Incident" and it would just be better without her. Although some of these extras are regulars, maybe for once Darnielle should quit being the popular kid in the class and just play for me.



Angela Evancie

ACCLAIMED CHAMBER ENSEMBLE REVEALS NEW RUSSIAN COMPOSER'S COMPOSITION

This past weekend, Igor Golubev unveiled his composition "Sparkling Thirds," as performed by the Da Capo Chamber Players. The concert, comprised entirely of contemporary music, provided an enjoyable if challenging evening. Internationally renowned, Da Capo have performed from St. Petersburg to Lincoln Center, raking in critical acclaim. Da Capo has commissioned works from such contemporary music luminaries as Milton Babbitt, Joan Tower, Philip Glass and John Harbison. In addition to the formal concert, the ensemble also performed student work from Music Department Professor Su Lian Tan's fall Advanced Composition course. Alison Maggart '08, Meredith Downing '08 and Jesse Gubb '10 all showcased pieces in a reading.



Spotlight on...Yina Ng '09 and Simon Thomas-Train '09

A petite girl from Hong Kong and a tall boy raised just across the lake in Keene Valley, N.Y., Yina Ng '09 and Simon Thomas-Train '09 sit comfortably side-by-side, their physical differences only hinting at the powerful dynamics manifested in their duet "It Needs What You Don't Want." Both dance majors, their piece has been chosen to represent the New England Region at the National Gala of the American College Dance Festival in New York City at the Miller Theatre of Barnard College, June 4-6. Interrupting and completing each other's sentences, Ng and Thomas-Train spoke to *The Middlebury Campus* about the challenges and the rewards of working on a collaborative project.

The Middlebury Campus: Could you outline the importance of National Gala of the American College Dance Festival?

Simon Thomas-Train: The American College Dance Festival Association has a conference every year that is divided into 10 regions across the country, and Middlebury goes to the New England one. Any school is welcome to enter, and there are usually around 40 schools. Each school is allowed to bring up to two pieces, and they pick ten to 12 of the top pieces for the one final concert and from there they pick two to three pieces to go to the national concert, which is a bi-annual event.

TC: What is the concept and the inspiration behind your piece?

Yina Ng: We actually officially started this duet from this summer from the work we did at the Bates Dance Festival. We used a lot of material from that duet, and we picked out what we liked, especially the weight-shifting stuff that we did. We discovered that the most interesting dynamic was what was happening between the two of us on stage. "It Needs What You Don't Want" sort of evolved from that into another new piece.

ST: The real seed of the duet was definitely planted this summer. Yina and I have been working since then in a strictly duet sort of way. We played a lot with the dynamics possible in a relationship — especially in a male-female relationship. We were



Courtesy

both working with the Middlebury Dance company and we were put together in a piece that played with the idea of how quickly a relationship can turn from something loving into something violent. It was a really dynamic, really physical relationship that played itself out on the stage. A very similar feel emerged in the piece we made, but with much more of us in it because we were making it instead of having it made on us. We played a lot with the range of human expression and range of emotion — from slapping to holding. The full scope of what a duet, or a couple, can go through basically.

TC: What have you discovered to be the challenges and the rewards of doing a collaborative piece?

YN: In some ways it is easier because there is never a lack of material — there are a lot of ideas bouncing on and off each other.

ST: As soloist and choreographers we work very differently. But by putting us together, we knew that someone would have a different take on something, so we never got stuck. We never really stalled and for the most part we didn't bump heads. It pushes you to try to see it from their point of view and accept choices that you wouldn't make if you were making it by yourself. You know you have to dance with this person and if you hate each other, it's going to suck.

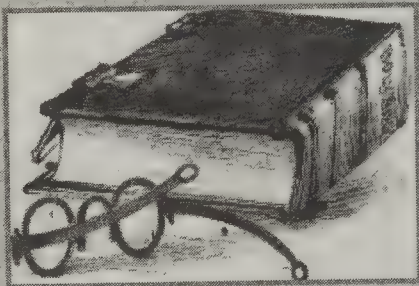
YN: I definitely appreciate that I've found someone who I can work with collaboratively. One of the good things about collaboration is that we did stretch each other's boundaries and it forced us to think in a different way. We worked together to see how different opinions could make something good.

TC: Do you have any plans to work with one another in the future? Or is it too soon to tell?

YN: Well, we are the only two dance majors in our year.

ST: We actually are in the process of writing a proposal for our 500 project, which would be our senior concert. It may incorporate this piece in some way and it may not. At this point it's open-ended.

Melissa Marshall, Arts Editor



The Synesthesiac: Arts and Letters With Ashley Gamell

syn-eh-s-the-sia from the Greek (*syn-*) union, and (*aesthesis*) sensation; is the neurological mixing of the senses. A synesthete may, for example, hear colors, see sounds — and taste tactile sensations.

A small group of bedraggled Middlebury constituents pulled up to the New England Chapter of the 2008 American College Dance Festival on a dreary Thursday over February break. After milling around the grey grounds of Connecticut College, we made our way to catch the end of the first round of student performances at Palmer Auditorium, a somber modern building that sits on the edge of the strip. After a few 10-minute student performances in various genres and stages of evolution, and all with apparently unbounded costuming budgets, the lights came up. Middlebury Professor of Dance Andrea Olsen miraculously appeared to meet us in the mezzanine, making an affectionate sweep of the rows of red velvet seats below. In this very theatre — she told us, her eyes widening — Merce Cunningham had made his debut of *Wintersong*. A solid hour of darkness on stage save a few random flickers of light, revealing a shoul-

der here, an ankle there. Everyone but a few brave souls had walked out. (She had been counted among the brave, whether by accident or choice, as she was ushering at the theatre that night.) This place had witnessed greatness. It had witnessed tomfoolery — and often probably something bordering on the two.

Rising in animated gangs from the audience were a few hundred dancing co-eds from state, community and private schools across the Northeast, some in matching Olympian tracksuits. Handfuls of semi-famous dance figures were strewn about in the crowd. Seated at an improvised plywood table loaded with tangerines and water bottles were the three adjudicators of the conference: the radiant Bebe Miller, the slender tapper Thomas DeFrantz and Jo-Anna Mendi Shaw, the fierce contemporary choreographer most recently known for her dances with horses.

Over the next few days, conference attendees alternately attended three technique classes a day, hunted out Holiday Inn hallways in which to practice the dances they'd brought to perform, sat through three-hour long sessions of student showcases and then listened to equally rigorous analyses of those works from the adjudicators. One way or another, there was a lot of dancing. A troupe of immaculate ballet-dancers from Harvard presented a very geometrical dance en pointe to Phillip Glass. A Rutgers graduate student stood for many minutes in front of a video projector shaking her head wildly and there was a rumor that one of the girls in the pink-taffeta number lost her cookies on stage (her cover-up was first-class).

Among the highlights of the student offerings was a disarmingly witty commentary on modern dance from Hampshire College, which included four dancers galloping around stage singing "we don't dance to music, we don't dance to music"

and holding up cardboard signs with slogans like "I don't get it." A deafeningly dark piece from Connecticut College was performed in 1950s prep school outfits. A duet from Middlebury College, which was among those chosen to continue to the National Chapter in New York this June, paired the athletic power of Simon Thomas-Train '09 and the dynamism of pint-sized Yina Ng '09 in a fiery and sensual duel.

At the adjudication session on Saturday morning, the three judges reflected on a tension they'd noticed throughout the weekend — the distinction between movement that is decorative and movement that is somehow more significant. Even throughout the radicalism of earlier decades — the days of *Wintersong* — dance has precariously skirted the line between spectacle and statement, struggling to balance artistic progressivism with the necessities of ticket sales and a sense of humor. Today, there's Momix doing fabulous stunts in baseball uniforms, but there's also plenty of humanity, political outrage and minimalism in the dance world. The judges wondered why Harvard had regressed to the forms of the early 19th century, but they also wondered whether significance meant meaning or meaning meant significance, and whether you needed either to make an arabesque worthwhile. We left the lecture room feeling as though we'd been in a wrestling match — provoked, restless, glowing.

At a talkback on the final afternoon of the conference, DeFrantz put the question of aesthetics and ethics aside. Turning to his own life, he mentioned that he had been working doggedly on a project for five years, a project based on the belief that "beauty is entirely productive." It was with this assumption in mind that a few hundred dancers dispersed from New London on Sunday morning, returning quietly to their studios to start generating pieces for next year.

artsbrief

By Melissa Marshall
ARTS EDITOR

91.1 FM WRMC has tuned-in to a new semester, and is living up to their mission statement of bringing original programming to the Champlain Valley. Online, in the car or in the dorms, dare to set the dial to this spring's most inventive shows.

Alphabet Soup

Time: Sunday 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Converging cultures and contemporary music, "Alphabet Soup" serves up an outside-the-box blend of rock from both English- and Spanish-speaking artists. Nostalgic for your days abroad? Check it out, *Ho.*

Middlebury Radio Theatre of Thrills and Suspense

Time: Saturday 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Whether they are interpreting classics or improvising original material, this group of students has updated WRMC programming with a vintage feel. Creative, witty and utterly unique, Radio Drama has been steadily gaining popularity both on and off-campus through their devoted fan base and online podcasts.

Radio! Arts! Middlebury!

Time: Wednesday 4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Entirely produced by sophomore Colin Foss, this NPR-modeled show reviews and previews upcoming events in theatre, music, dance and film at the College and the surrounding areas. A professional style, exclusive interviews and clever segues add a metropolitan feel to this local lowdown on the arts.

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U.S. ARMY

ARMY STRONG.



WINTER CARNIVAL '08

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

FRIDAY (FEB. 22) — ALPINE (AT THE SNOW BOWL):

- MEN'S SLALOM, FIRST RUN — 9:30 A.M.
- WOMEN'S SLALOM, FIRST RUN — 10:30 A.M.
- MEN'S SLALOM, SECOND RUN — 12:30 P.M.
- WOMEN'S SLALOM, SECOND RUN — 1:45 P.M.

FRIDAY — NORDIC (AT RIKERT SKI TOURING CENTER)

- MEN'S 10K FREESTYLE — 10:00 A.M.
- WOMEN'S 5K FREESTYLE — 11:15 A.M.

SATURDAY (FEB. 23) — ALPINE

- WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM, FIRST RUN — 9:30 A.M.
- MEN'S GIANT SLALOM, FIRST RUN — 10:30 A.M.
- WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM, SECOND RUN — 12:30 P.M.
- MEN'S GIANT SLALOM, SECOND RUN — 1:30 P.M.

SATURDAY — NORDIC

- WOMEN'S 10K MASS START CLASSICAL — 10:00 A.M.
- MEN'S 15K MASS START CLASSICAL — 11:30 A.M.

Jeff Patterson

THIS YEAR'S RESULTS

CUMULATIVE POINTS ON CARNIVAL CIRCUIT:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| - Dartmouth College, 3243.5 | - Bates College, 2243.5 |
| - Middlebury College, 3172 | - St. Lawrence University, 1649.5 |
| - University of Vermont, 3001.5 | - Harvard University, 829 |
| - University of New Hampshire, 2752.5 | - St. Michael's College, 768.5 |
| - Colby College, 2340.5 | - Bowdoin College, 551 |
| - Williams College, 2260 | - Colby-Sawyer College, 0 |

*From the Bates, St. Lawrence, UVM, Dartmouth and Williams carnivals.

TELLING NUMBER

37-6.5

Score by which Dartmouth College beat the Panther ski team at the first collegiate race at the Middlebury Snow Bowl in 1934.

Fast-forward 73 years, the Big Green topped the skiers in blue 928.5-833.

WORD ON THE STREET

"After spending the weekend attending the infamous Middlebury College Winter Carnival, I came to the conclusion that Colby needs a campuswide winter tradition. ... An event which gives us Friday off, as they do at Middlebury, and gives us the push to get some fresh air would help us all. A winter carnival, done right, brings everyone out, whether it is for skiing, curling or beer." — Jeff Alden in *The Colby Echo*, March 2, 2007

DEFENDING CHAMPS



Jeff Patterson

Dartmouth's Ben True (No. 45) will be back to defend his title in the 10K Freestyle race.



Jeff Patterson

Panther skiers will make it hard for UVM's Greg Hardy to repeat as slalom champ.

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

A recurring and comforting theme throughout the successful fall and winter seasons of Middlebury sports has been the role of the first-years.

From Donnie McKillop's guidance of the NESCAC champion football team and Ashton Coghlan's knack to hit the big shot from behind the arc to Anna McNally's goal-scoring run on the ice, the impact of the class of 2011 has certainly hit Panther opponents.

The story is no different for the men's hockey team, which features five first-years who have not only seen significant ice time but have also made key contributions in big spots throughout the season. Three of these first-years happen to live in Stewart Hall and are featured in this week's "Inside the Locker Room".

Michael Kretschmer, the lone third-floor hockey player, answered the questions, while we tried to gauge how well his first-floor teammates, Bryan Curran and Trevor Dodds, know the Indianapolis, Ind. native. Kretschmer is coming off a fine individual performance in which he scored the team's opening goal, off an assist from Curran, in the Panthers' last-minute loss to UMass-

Seven questions about number 34

	Kretschmer	Curran	Dodds
What is your pre-game pump-up song?	A French one	Blinded by the Light (0)	Good Charlotte (0)
What kind of stick do you play with?	Easton Z-Bubble	Easton (1)	Easton Z-Bubble(1)
TV show missed the most because of the writer's strike?	"Chuck"	"America's Next Top Model" (0)	"The Office" (0)
Who is your favorite <i>Mighty Ducks</i> character?	Goldberg	Averman (0)	Goldberg (1)
Alex Ovechkin or Sidney Crosby?	Ovechkin	Ovechkin (1)	Crosby (0)
Our locker room smells like...?	Roses	Hockey (0)	Garbage (0)
Who is your favorite SI swimsuit model?	Marissa Miller	Marissa Miller (1)	Molly Sims (0)
final score		3	2

Boston on Feb. 17. The 19-year-old defenseman is tied for fifth on the team with five goals and is a key asset on the power play with his deadly slapshot.

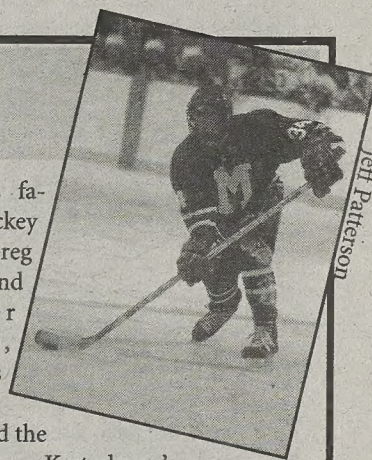
In the end, Curran defeated Dodds by a very hockey-like score of 3-2. While both

teammates were able to identify their fellow first-year's weapon of choice, the Easton Z-Bubble, they could not correctly say which show the self-proclaimed "TV nut" missed most because of the writer's strike. While Dodds and Curran split questions over two of

Kretschmer's favorite hockey players (Greg Goldberg and Alexander Ovechkin), the tie was broken when Curran nailed the final question, Kretschmer's favorite swimsuit model.

Panther hockey fans will have one last chance to see Coach Beaney's version of the "Fab Five" lace up their skates in the regular season as first-years this upcoming weekend. The team, which currently holds a 14-6-2 mark, hosts NESCAC foes Amherst and Hamilton in its attempt to recapture home ice advantage throughout the league tournament. While the Panthers have uncharacteristically struggled of late, dropping four of their last five, the 2007-08 squad is out to seek redemption and is determined to reclaim its title as national champions. If the Panthers are successful in reaching all their goals, chances are a first-year or two will have something to do with it.

— Andrew Somberg, Staff Writer



Jeff Patterson

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
2/15 2/16 2/17	Men's Squash	Hamilton Wesleyan Denison	6-3 L 5-4 L 5-4 L	Even with three heart-breaking losses at Team Nationals, the men still secured their first ever top-25 ranking (24th).
2/15 2/16	Men's Hockey	Babson UMass-Boston	4-2 L 4-3 L	Jack Kinder '09 and Rob MacIntyre '08 each scored their first goals of the season over the weekend.
2/15 2/16	Women's Hockey	Conn. Coll. Amherst	5-1 W 1-1 T	Anna McNally '11 netted a hat trick against the Camels for her 16th, 17th and 18th goals.
2/15 2/16	Men's Basketball	Wesleyan Conn. Coll.	75-71 W 93-86 L	Their 18th win of the season broke the record for most wins in a season, which was previously held by the 1974-1975 squad.
2/15 2/16	Women's Basketball	Wesleyan Conn. Coll.	36-32 W 68-58 L	Defense was the key against Wesleyan as the women held the Cardinals to an astonishingly low 21 percent shooting.

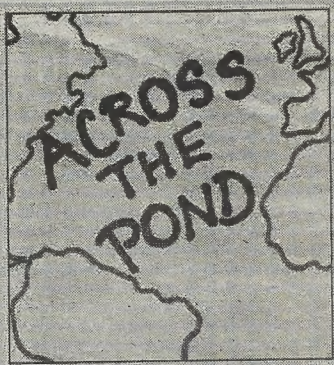
BY THE NUMBERS

5	Number of overtimes the Middlebury women's hockey team has played in its last three games against Amherst.
4	Number of players on the Middlebury women's hockey team who have committed four penalties this year.
3	Number of players on the Middlebury women's hockey team who have committed three penalties this year.
2	Number of players on the Middlebury women's hockey team who have committed two penalties this year.
180	Degrees Ashley Miller's '09 photo has been rotated on the new, re-launched NESCAC Web site. He appears to be playing golf left-handed, even though he is a righty.

Editors' Picks



Questions	Peter Baumann	James Kerrigan	Simon Keyes	Jeff Klein	Jeff Patterson
How many DNFs will there be in the men's slalom race at the Snow Bowl on Friday?	EIGHT It's my lucky number and luck is my only hope at this point.	NINE There are nine letters in "I don't know."	TEN It's Jeff Patterson's answer minus two.	SIX It's my lucky number.	TWELVE There are 12 letters in the phrase "Did Not Finish." (There are also 12 letters in "Go Middlebury!")
Will enough students wear white to create a Kenyon Arena White Out on Friday night?	NO I know we're worried about our records here, but this seems pretty subjective ...	NO Is this even measurable?	YES I'm putting a lot of faith in the student body here.	NO For the first time in a while, basketball is the hottest sport on campus. Fans will save their energy for Saturday.	NO Students will be too blacked-out to remember to wear white.
Which team will score the first field goal in the men's basketball first-round game?	MIDDLEBURY Who knows? Who cares? We'll win.	WILLIAMS Come-from-behind wins are more exciting.	MIDDLEBURY It will probably be from downtown as well.	MIDDLEBURY The crowd will be roarin' and will get even louder once the Panthers start off the game with a three.	MIDDLEBURY Williams will have the first attempt, but Andrew Harris '08 will be the one to make the game's first shot.
Who will win on Saturday, No. 1 Memphis or No. 2 Tennessee?	MEMPHIS Probably the most athletic team in the nation, and they'll be up to play their rivals.	MEMPHIS Maybe somebody in college sports will hang on to the top spot when facing a challenger this year.	MEMPHIS Home court advantage will help the Tigers, especially when they see an orange and shirtless Bruce Pearl.	TENNESSEE Memphis barely squeaked out a victory over UAB. Its "perfect" season involuntarily ends against the Volunteers.	TENNESSEE The Vols won't be walking in Memphis. They'll be running the fast break until the Tigers are gassed.
Who will win this Sunday's NASCAR race at the California Speedway?	JEFF GORDON I expect the boys from Hendrick to take back Victory Lane this week.	JIMMIE JOHNSON He boosted my (low) percentage last time I picked him to win something.	TONY STEWART He'll get his revenge after losing a late lead to Ryan Newman at Daytona.	JEFF GORDON When you know virtually nothing about NASCAR, go with who you know best (and the guy who shares my name).	JUAN PABLO MONTOYA "His name is Juan Pablo Montoya. You killed his father, prepare to die!"
Career Record	19-26 (.422)	42-53 (.442)	48-56 (.462)	0-0 (.000)	62-71 (.466)



by Adam Clayton

Across another pond to the east, baffling events unfolded last week that were huge for the Olympics, and possibly the future of this world — Steven Spielberg said his conscience over the continuing genocide in Darfur no longer allowed him to be artistic consultant to the upcoming Olympic games in Beijing. Steven's thinking, in short, is that if the Olympics lack artistic vision, angry Chinese people will topple the communist government, and then Darfur will revert back to flowery meadows and rainbow skies.

Behind this move by Spielberg lies the actress Mia Fallow, who decided last year upon seeing the suffering in Darfur, that to solve it she needed to attack the 2008 Olympics, a rare institution where people and nations can co-exist in healthy competition. For her, supporting the Olympics means encouraging genocide in Sudan, the link between the two are so clear she labeled it the "Genocide Olympics." She even threatened to overshadow Spielberg's legacy, saying he could go down as the modern day Leni Riefenstahl, the Nazi propagandist who filmed the Olympics 70 years ago and sought her directorial inspirations from *Mein Kampf*.

Sure, sports and politics often go hand in hand, but this seems delusional at best and intentionally ridiculous attention-seeking at worst. I don't watch the Olympics to celebrate or condone ethnic murder, much like I don't when I eat Thanksgiving dinner. Poorly performed synchronized swimming can conjure similar feelings, but by and large it's an opportunity to briefly bring nations and family together to share something special. I won't let my future children watch "Pocahontas" because it stars the voice of Mel Gibson, who hates Jews, but that's a totally different story.

On a different note, the NBA has showed us that sporting success is occasionally presumed to be less about talent and athleticism and more about presence. The Western Conference is by far and away the more competitive of the two, especially after Pau Gasol was given to the Lakers, leading to some drastic action on the part of NBA executives in Phoenix and (probably) Dallas. The Suns traded away the league's most athletic player in Shawn Marion for Shaquille O'Neal, whose accompanying superlative adjective has gone from most dominant to most humorous. So expect to see the once 'most entertaining' team morph into the most unusual, and likely win the NBA championship in the process.

Shaq is unlikely to thrive statistically in Phoenix, and given that the Suns like to shoot in less than seven seconds, even less likely to make it beyond half-court every other possession. But as any professional athlete will tell you, a player with a history of winning and a competitive attitude can contribute in many ways to a team, and in this case rubbing four fingers in the face of his ring-less teammates will probably have the desired effect. NBA players are super talented and often have giant egos, which can get in the way of actual success. So having an unmatched ego in Shaquille O'Neal can actually dramatically improve team chemistry. Come the playoffs, having somebody who knows what it takes to see it all the way through is huge, and the move might justify itself during a seven-game series with the Spurs. Such is my confidence in this team pulling off the unexpected that I would be happy to bet on the Suns winning the entire thing. You get twenty nine, I get one.

Sailing Club raises a "yacht" of money

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Sailing Club, which has sent out quarterly newsletters to 150 alumni during the past several years, approached the Alumni and Parent Program — a major department in the Advancement division — this past fall to access its database, complete with alumni interests and preferences. After getting approval from Spears, they were able to further tap into the alumni network and target former Sailing Club members.

"The Sailing Club put together a fantastic proposal," said Director of Annual Giving Susan Regier, "that demonstrated the worthiness of its cause. They went through all the right channels to make this happen."

"[The Office of College Advancement] knew we were interested in doing some fund-raising," said Sailing Club Commodore Chandler Koglmeier '09, "and we were in a great place to jump on the opportunity."

Sailing Club Director of Fundraising Katie Donovan '10 partnered with the Office of College Advancement to develop the best possible procedure for implementing this new strategy. In conjunction with the Web site campaign, the Sailing Club sent out a case statement detailing the specifics of the fund-raising efforts to the new list of roughly 750 alumni in December 2007. This endeavor will supplement the \$9,560 the Sailing Club received from the Student Government Association via the Finance Committee, the traditional approach to funding the over 150 clubs and organizations on campus.

The process for using the Alumni and Parent Program was not well established for clubs



Courtesy

Adam Volwiler '09 and Max Junda '09 (right) ride the wind at the Williams Regatta last fall.

and organizations in the past. Sports teams have used this alumni network to raise additional funds for spring trips, for example, but the method is not widespread. According to Koglmeier, both parties have learned a lot so far.

"We needed a sample group to see how the process would work," said Adams, "and to see if it is possible to replicate."

Even though the team encountered some hurdles, they were not insurmountable. "The Sailing Club has done an admirable job working through the logistics," said Adams.

The Sailing Club's success in fund-raising does not guarantee that the process will be easily replicated for any club or organization, however. The club wanted to make recreational sailing more available to the student population at large, meaning the entire college community could benefit from the money. Additionally, the sailing club's leadership was both motivated and diligent, necessary ingredients for success, according to Regier.

With four months remaining for the club to reach its goal of \$50,000, the sailing commodore is cautiously optimistic. "I believe we have a great group of alumni and donors to make this happen," said Koglmeier.

If it is able to raise the full amount, the Sailing Club, which finished 23rd in the New England Intercollegiate Sailing Association (NEISA) this past fall (its highest placing ever), will benefit immensely. With 12 new FJ's costing a total of \$66,500, the goal is expensive. However, a new fleet of boats would allow Middlebury to host regattas as early as next fall, and would make the activity more accessible and convenient for sailors of all abilities.

SAILING CLUB PROPOSED BUDGET, 2008

Revenue:

- Finance Committee: \$9,560
- Fund-raising total, as of Feb. 19, 2008: \$27,360
- Fund-raising goal, by May 2008: \$50,000

Expenses:

- 12 new FJ's: \$66,500
- Floating docks and storage: \$2,000
- New sails for four current 420's: \$350 each + delivery

Nakamura '09 knocks one past Amherst

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

the third period, when Erika Nakamura '09 earned a point for Middlebury at the 11:50 mark with an assist by assistant captain Karen Levin '08.

"The team is really coming together and everyday I am inspired by everyone's work ethic and performance," said Nakamura. "We aren't just relying on one or two people anymore, which is great, and everyone is stepping up and filling their roles."

Unfortunately, the goal seemed to be just what the Lady Jeffs needed to push their own offense to score. Two minutes and 28 seconds after Nakamura's successful shot,

NESCAC STANDINGS

WOMEN'S HOCKEY AS OF FEB. 21

Middlebury	11-0-3
Amherst	10-0-4
Trinity	9-2-3
Colby	6-4-3
Connecticut College	5-6-3
Hamilton	4-6-4
Bowdoin	2-7-6
Wesleyan	1-12-1
Williams	1-12-1

Julie Radziewicz netted a goal for Amherst in a showdown with her former St. Mark's School teammate and childhood friend Wright.

Despite affording Radziewicz's game-tying goal, Wright "really pulled through for us with a lot of big saves," said assistant captain Annmarie Cellino '09.

The teams were matched practically shot-for-shot until the last minute in overtime, the players carving up both sides of the rink. The upper hand shifted constantly

"back and forth pretty competitively" said Bairos, "and both teams had their moments throughout the game."

While Saturday's game may not count as a win in the record books, the Panthers are quick to recognize the skill level of the Amherst team, and are confident that they will receive another opportunity to beat the Jeffs before the season's end.

"We're definitely going to see them in the NESCAC championship," said Bairos. "While we tied on Saturday, our feeling is that we'll get them when it counts."

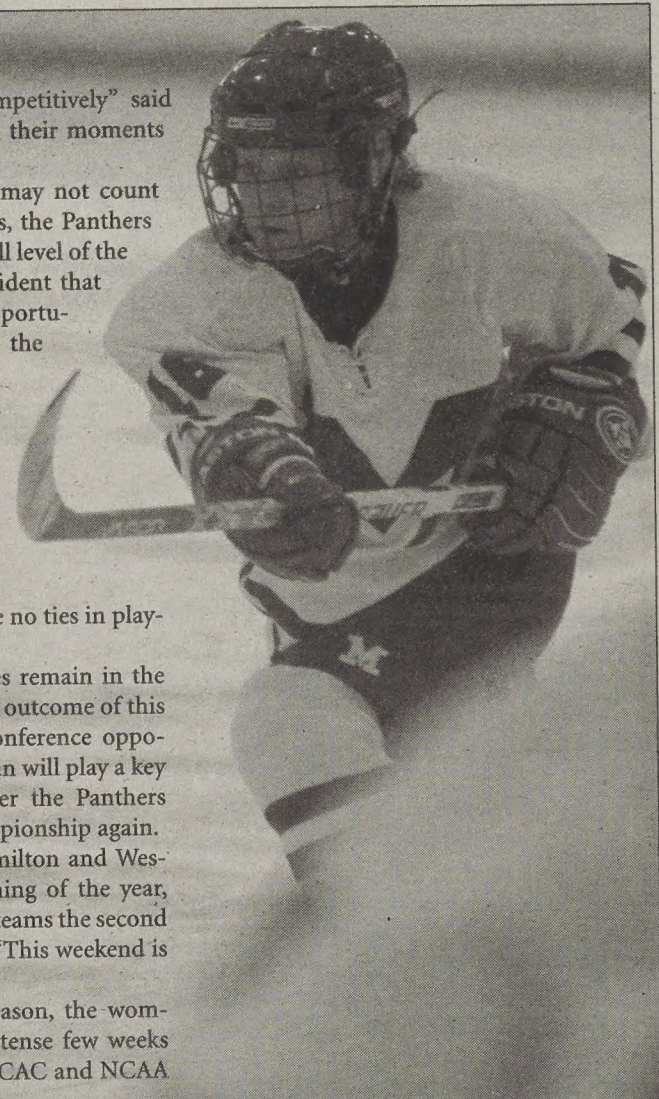
Added Levin, "There are no ties in playoffs."

Though only two games remain in the Panthers' regular season, the outcome of this weekend's games against conference opponents Hamilton and Wesleyan will play a key role in determining whether the Panthers will host the NESCAC championship again.

"Although we beat Hamilton and Wesleyan handily at the beginning of the year, they are sure to be different teams the second time around," said Cellino. "This weekend is going to be huge for us."

At this point in the season, the women are preparing for the intense few weeks leading up to both the NESCAC and NCAA championships.

Having let both titles slip through their gloved fingers in the 2006-2007 season, the Panthers are hungry for victory against the perennial competitors they are certain to face before the season is over.



Jeff Patterson

Randi Dumont '09 blasts a shot in the second period of the Amherst game on Feb. 16. Lady Jeffs goalie Krystyn Elek stopped the incoming puck for one of her 20 saves.

Connecticut College loss not a deep wound

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

Not to be deterred, the Panthers showed why they are such a dangerous team, as they too caught fire in the second half. Sparked by the lights-out shooting of co-captain Andrew Harris '08, the Panthers went on a quick 8-0 run, turning a 65-44 deficit into a much more respectable 13-point margin. The Camels again extended the lead and again the Panthers responded, going on another 8-0 run to narrow the lead to 10 points with 3:32 remaining.

Yet, in the end, Conn. College's sizeable advantage turned out to be too big, as Middlebury could not get over the Camels' hump. The Camels shot an astounding 82 percent from the floor in the second half.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Wesleyan	71
Middlebury	75

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Connecticut College	93
Middlebury	86

A night earlier against Wesleyan, however, Middlebury earned a victory with tight defensive pressure and timely shooting. Holding a 17-15 advantage at the 10:03 mark, the Panthers orchestrated a 12-2 run over the next 4:15 for a 29-17 lead. The Cardinals put together a run of their own, outscoring Middlebury 5-0 over the final 47 seconds of the first half to close the gap to 33-29 at intermission.

Wesleyan cut the lead to one in the second half, but could never seize the lead as Middlebury went on an 8-0 run for a 46-37 advantage at the 13:51 mark. After a Wesleyan basket cut Middlebury's lead to two with 6:13, the Panthers regained a comfortable nine-point lead with 3:54 remaining, forcing the Cardinals to start fouling.

Smith was a huge factor down low throughout the game, regularly getting excellent position inside for easy baskets. He attributes his strong performance, both against Wesleyan and throughout the season, to "working really hard in the off-season on my body, increasing my strength and endurance. I believe my post game has greatly improved

LAST 10 GAMES VS. WILLIAMS

DATE, WINNER, SCORE

2/2/2008 — Middlebury	63-60
1/27/2007 — Williams	86-79
1/28/2006 — Williams	65-61
1/29/2005 — Williams	72-54
2/21/2004 — Williams	74-52
1/17/2004 — Williams	104-71
1/18/2003 — Williams	90-67
2/16/2002 — Williams	88-63
2/17/2001 — Williams	71-48
2/22/2000 — Williams	74-54

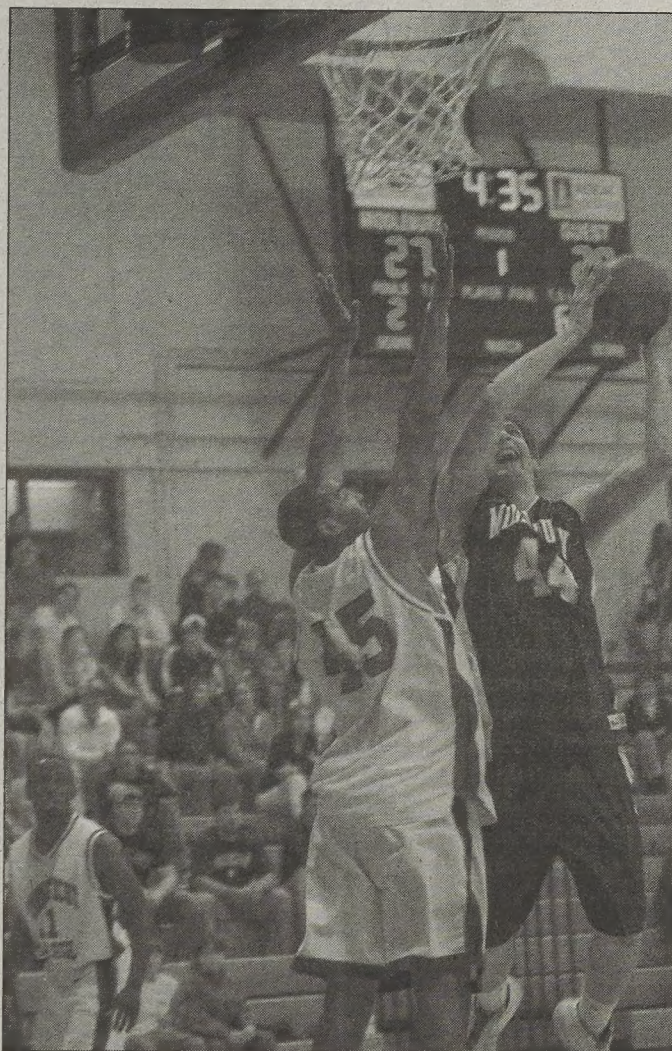
because of that."

While the Panthers were able to pull out the four-point victory, they made the game far closer than it had to be, with just 23-of-39 shooting from the free-throw line. The Panthers will have to improve that component of their game to make a serious run in the postseason.

Asked to assess the team's state and areas for improvement heading into the playoffs, Harris pointed to the necessity of sustaining a strong defensive performance.

"We need to improve our consistency on defense," he said. "There are games where the shots don't seem to fall, but our defensive effort should always be there. Good team defense has been our staple this season, and if we play defense at a high level throughout the game, we're a hard team to beat."

"We are very tough to beat when everyone is active on defense," said Smith. "This has been a great year and we don't want it to end anytime soon."



Jeff Patterson
Aaron Smith's baby-hook with 4:35 left in the first half gave Middlebury its last lead of the game against Connecticut College.

No one knocked off Wood '10

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

son, the Panthers were confident they would come away with another crushing victory. And, paced once again by victories from Wood and McMorris, with additional wins by Elliot Jia '10 and Jesse Davidson '08, Middlebury appeared in good position to continue its dominance. However, confidence may have given way to arrogance as the men ended up falling 5-4.

"We were very uninspired during the middle match," said Illig, "and thus we didn't play as well, which was disappointing."

So, with one match left on the weekend, the men their toughest opponent yet. Ranked 19th in the nation, Denison had already eked out a tight 5-4 victory over Middlebury in January.

With its top four players each losing in three games, the Panthers looked to the bottom half of their roster to provide a much-needed spark. Led by Carroll in the five-spot, Middlebury rattled off four victories from the

five-nine players.

Wood, playing in the seven-spot, completed his impressive weekend with yet another victory to finish his first National tournament with an unblemished individual record of 3-0. Other victories from Davidson and William Piekos '11 got the Panthers close but weren't enough as Denison once again pulled out a 5-4 victory.

Although a record of 0-3 on the weekend was disappointing for the Panthers, Illig was proud of his team. "We learned a lot from this past weekend, and we learned what it takes to succeed at nationals," he said. "None of the teams let up, there, and everyone comes at you hard. All in all, it was a fantastic year. Our sites are set high for next season."

And with the return of Wood, who finished 14-7 on the season, Piekos, and the Panthers' four best players J.P. Sardi '09, Brian Cady '11, McMorris and Jia, Coach Illig and the rest of the team have all the reason to be looking forward to building upon their overall 11-13 record.

sportsbriefs

By Peter Baumann

Assistant Sports Editor

First-years lead track

The Middlebury indoor track team traveled to Maine this past weekend to take on three other teams at Bowdoin. The women turned in an impressive outing, winning six different events. While Jennifer Brenes '09 won the 55-meter hurdles, and Jennifer Currie '08 took the 20-pound weight throw, the day belonged to the Middlebury first-years. Katy Magill '11 won the 200-meters, Grace Close '11 won the 600-meters and Kaitlynn Saldanha '11 won the 1000-meters. Classmate Sophia Spring '11 also tacked on a victory in the mile.

The men were once again paced by Jimmy Butcher '08, who finished second in the mile with an impressive time of 4:24.06. He was joined on the podium by Ian O'Reilly '08, who recorded a third-place finish in the 600-meters. In the field events, Joel Valverde '09 leapt to a second-place finish in the triple jump and Kristoffer Williams '11 added to Middlebury's first-year-dominance with a third-place finish in the pole vault.

Men's hockey drops third straight, falls to 14-6-2

The men's hockey team added to their late season woes last week, losing a 4-3 decision to UMass-Boston. The loss marked the third straight for the Panthers leading into their final weekend of the year. Middlebury easily outshot the Beacons 45-25, but were stifled by UMass goaltender Ryan Donovan who finished the evening with 42 saves. UMass-Boston took an early lead on a goal from Steve Ebbole, and Devin Hutchinson added another goal just two minutes later for a 2-0 lead. Michael Kretschmer '11 got things started for the Panthers with a power-play goal at 7:06 of the second period, but Kris Kranzy answered for the Beacons just 83 seconds later. Robert MacIntyre's '08 first goal of the year brought Middlebury to within a goal, getting an assist from Tom Maldono '08. The assist was the 100th point of the senior's distinguished career. Casey Ftorek '08 tied the game up with a little over two minutes remaining in the contest, but Eric Tufman put the Beacons up for good just 23 seconds later. Ross Cherry '08 finished with 21 saves.



File Photo/Jeff Patterson

Jack Kinder '09 scored his first goal of the season against Babson on Feb. 15.

Women to face Tufts, Feb. 23

The Middlebury women's basketball team finished up the regular season with a 68-58 loss to Connecticut College. The loss dropped the Panthers' league record to 4-5, and earned them the seventh seed for the upcoming NESCAC championship. The Camels won the game on the glass, finishing with a 46-32 advantage in rebounds. Aylie Baker '09 and Ashley Barron '09 led the Panthers with 11 points each. Emily Johnson '09 chipped in with five assists, and tri-captain Lani Young '08 pulled down nine rebounds to go along with her six points. Their efforts were not enough to slow down the Camels, due in large part to the efforts of Lindsay Michel. Michel scored a game-high 19 points, helping Connecticut College to their first winning season since the '96-'97 season. Middlebury trailed by two at the half, and later fell behind 54-46. The Panthers were able to close the gap to six, but Connecticut College used stellar free throw shooting down the stretch to bury the visitors.

The women now travel to Tufts to take on the Jumbos in a first round NESCAC match-up.

The Great Eight

Rank	Last	Team	Cap's Comments...
1	2	Skiing	Placed second at the Williams Carnival, but they get the no. 1 spot for beating both UNH and UVM for the fourth time this year.
2	3	M. Basketball (18-6)	Eighteenth win set a school record and was a precursor to the 100 Days Party, where the record for the most marker scrubbed off of faces happened.
3	4	W. Hockey (17-2-3)	Amherst and Middlebury tied for the second time this season. Now if we could only do that in the U.S. News & World Report rankings once!
4	8	Track and Field	Walking down icy pathways in the rain should be an NCAA event. I, however, would not do well.
5	1	Swimming & Diving (6-2)	Swimmers were off this week — just like the editors were with their picks. Can't we find ONE editor that could be bowl eligible?
6	6	W. Basketball (13-11)	Earned seventh seed for NESCAC tourney, after losing to Conn. College — making all four editors losers for last week's picks.
7	5	M. Hockey (14-6-2)	Limping into final weekend after three straight losses, but still have a much better record than the editors.
8	7	Squash (11-13)	The men's maiden voyage this year resembled the Titanic. It started amid great fanfare and ended badly — to the tune of seven straight defeats.



Jeff Patterson

Krissie Poehling '08 has had a fifth-place finish and two 11ths in the slalom this year, to help the ski team.

Bench helps men clinch third seed in NESCAC tourney



Jeff Patterson

Power forward Kevin Kelleher '10 and his teammates rose to the occasion on Friday, Feb. 15, beating Wesleyan 75-71. The Panthers' victory means that they will host Williams College in the upcoming NESCAC tournament.

Trinity wins 10th straight title, Panthers finish 24th

By Matt Ferrer
STAFF WRITER

Put another check on the Middlebury men's squash team's "to-do" list.

This past weekend the Panthers competed in the National tournament for the first time ever as a varsity program. And although they finished the weekend with a losing record, the experience of competing as a varsity team was invaluable.

Fifty-one teams from across the country entered the event, including all the NESCAC schools, all the Ivy League schools and schools like Stanford and UVA. Ranked 21st in the nation coming in, Middlebury was grouped in the Third Division with Tufts, Wesleyan, Hamilton, Denison, Northeastern, Stanford and St. Lawrence.

Having accumulated a combined team record of 2-4 against those teams (not having played Stanford) during the regular season, the men had their work cut out for them.

Looking for revenge after an 8-1 loss to Hamilton only two weeks ago, the men's team came out hun-

gry. Victories from Gordon McMorris '08.5, Micah Wood '10 and co-captain Will Carroll '07.5 showed Middlebury's mettle.

However, 20th-ranked Hamilton proved to be too much as they battled their way to a 6-3 victory. Despite the loss, Coach John Illig said, "we played very well," and hinted that there was reason to be optimistic for the rest of the weekend.

Hoping to ride that wave of optimism, the men took to the courts against NESCAC rival Wesleyan the next day. Having already handed the Cardinals a 7-2 loss earlier this sea-

SEE NO ONE KNOCKED, PAGE 27

By Jeff Klein

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Middlebury men's basketball team made history this weekend — and is now hoping to carry that momentum over to the postseason.

In two highly contrasting yet similarly exciting contests, the Panthers eked out a 75-71 win over Wesleyan in Pepin Gymnasium Friday night, Feb. 15, before dropping an offensive shootout 93-86 against Connecticut College Saturday after-

noon. With the split, Middlebury ended its regular season having accomplished two historic feats: its 18 wins mark a school record for a season and its third seed for the upcoming NESCAC tournament is the team's highest ever.

The Panthers take on rival Williams College next Saturday at the Pepin Palace in a quarterfinal match-up. But before the Panthers start thinking about the playoffs, they must revisit this past weekend's

action and try to correct some mistakes.

"The team will definitely need to improve on its intensity in the playoffs," said Aaron Smith '09, who averaged 19.0 points over the weekend.

Against the Camels of Connecticut College on Saturday, that intensity seemed to be sorely lacking for parts of the game. The game was tight at the beginning, as the first half featured nine ties, but Conn. College ended the half on a 9-0 run to take a 37-29 lead into intermission.

The break could do nothing to squelch the Camels' momentum, as they started the second half on fire. Hitting nine of its first 10 shots, Conn. College put together a 21-4 run, which amounted to an imposing 60-35 advantage at the 14:02 mark. Middlebury at times looked sluggish on defense during the run, allowing uncontested threes and an assortment of layups.

SEE CONNECTICUT, PAGE 27

NESCAC TOURNAMENT: MEN'S BASKETBALL

SATURDAY, FEB. 23

- 1. Amherst
- 8. Colby
- 4. Bowdoin
- 5. Bates
- 3. Middlebury
- 6. Williams
- 2. Trinity
- 7. Conn. College

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

Champion

Note: Teams will be rebracketed based on quarterfinal results.
Champion receives automatic bid to the D-III NCAA tournament.

Women work overtime on Saturday Neck-and-neck game knotted up late, ends in tie

By Emma Gardner
STAFF WRITER

One might say that repetition has been the theme of the 2007-2008 women's hockey season.

Falling for the second time in the last four months to Plattsburgh State on Feb. 12, the women lost their title as the top-ranked Division III team after being shutout for the first time in 134 games.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Amherst (OT)	1
Middlebury	1

On Saturday, Feb. 16, hoping to regain momentum after seeing their 17-game unbeaten streak end, the women were determined to defeat Amherst. Sixty-five minutes later, however, the game resulted in a 1-1 tie — just as Middlebury's first contest with Amherst ended earlier in the season, on Nov. 30, with a final score of 2-2.

In the game's first period, goalie Lani Wright '10 blocked all seven of Amherst's shots on the Middlebury goal. Amherst's defense played equally well, barring the offensive Panthers from contact with the net.

The tension continued to rise through the second period as players from both teams skated nimbly



Jeff Patterson

Erika Nakamura '09 pokes the puck past Amherst's netminder Krystyn Elek to put Middlebury up 1-0, with 8:10 left in the third period on Feb. 16.

around each other, while the puck still refused to enter either goal.

The game was reminiscent of the most recent Amherst-Middlebury confrontation, which was played on the Panthers' home ice — last year's NESCAC championship game. It went all the way to triple-overtime before the Lady Jeffs ultimately emerged victorious.

"It was exciting to get to play them in our rink considering the outcome of last year's game," said Ashley Bairos '10. "Amherst is a great team with a great coach, and both sides were battling hard."

Neither team managed to make it onto the Kenyon '85 Arena scoreboard until halfway through

SEE NAKAMURA '09, PAGE 26

me and my: birthday



The 3rd of January.
— HARRISON WATKINS '11



The 11th of April.
— DAVID LAROCCA '08



The 12th of April.
— LEXIE FISHER '08



The 13th of February.
— LINDSAY MCBRIDE '09

this week in sports

Inside the Locker Room:
Michael Kretschmer '11
He's one of two first-years to play in 21 games, page 25



games to watch
Men's hockey vs. Amherst, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m.
Men's basketball vs. Williams, Feb. 23 at 2 p.m.



Winter Carnival '08:
The ski races start on Friday.
See our page-long preview of them, page 24